

# THE LONDON MAGAZINE, ENLARGED AND IMPROVED, FOR FEBRUARY, 1784.

## PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY.

**T**O prove the resources of the Company, the counsel for the proprietors produced a statement\* of their debts and property on the 19th Nov. 1783, and an estimate of their (probable) receipts and payments up to March 1786, authenticated by their auditor and accountant. The counsel for the Directors, as well as urging the injustice of invading the Company's interests, and attacking the honour of their servants, by turning them out of their offices without any cause, argued

LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.

against the impolicy of the bill, and the addition which it would make to the influence of the crown. The first consideration of the seven commissioners would be to provide, at all hazards, for their own relations and dependents; and these in their turn would study, above all things, to please their masters at home. The tide of corruption would flow with a more violent current from India than ever; and whether the House regarded its own purity, the rights of the Company, or the general

privileges

\* As Mr. Fox stated exceptions to various sums mentioned in this account, to the amount of 12,000,000l. we have subjoined the following abstract of it:

D E B T O R.		C R E D I T O R.	
To what owing from the Company to the annuitants	£. 2,992,440	By what due from government to the Company for money advanced them	£. 4,200,000
To bonds bearing interest	1,996,700	By other debts due from government	422,011
To ditto not bearing interest	11,592	By cash and bonds	609,954
To customs on goods sold and unfold	1,641,254	By goods sold, not paid for	553,258
To the Exchequer for the last payment to government	100,000	By the value of goods in England unfold	2,500,000
To ditto for a loan of Exchequer bills and interest	302,587	By floating stock from England	1,219,091
To bills of exchange, &c. unpaid	2,489,093	By silver in the treasury in England paid for	1,090
To sundry debts on account of the trade	458,481	By what paid owners of ships not arrived in England	172,334
To interests on annuities, bonds, and stock	149,901	By the value of ships and vessels not stationed abroad	12,300
To half a year's dividend on stock due at Christmas next	128,000	By the value of the East-India-house and warehouses	253,616
To interest on military and contingent funds more than applied	72,639	By the nett balance of quick stocks at the several settlements, after deducting all debts owing by the Company in India and China	4,367,519
Balance in favour of the Company	10,342,692		
	3,968,481		
	<u>14,311,173</u>		<u>14,311,173</u>

This abstract, with a balance of nearly four millions in favour of the Company, wears a good face. But it must be confessed that every artifice had been used to swell the creditor, and sink the debtor side of the account, so that it is much less matter of wonder that Mr. Fox should be able to make such enormous exceptions, than that men of business should publish a statement of their affairs so liable to exception, exposed, as they knew it must be, to the keen eye of ministerial scrutiny and dissection. By so palpable an attempt to make their affairs appear in a better state than they really were in, they gave room to suspect that they were in a worse than they durst venture to acknowledge.

# PRICES of STOCKS, &c. in JANUARY, 1784.

Compiled by C. DOMVILLE, Stock-Broker, No. 95, Cornhill.

Day.	Bank Stock Holiday	3 per C. reduced	3 per C. consols.	4 per C. consols.	Long An.	Short An.	India Stock	India Ann.	India Bonds.	S. S. Stock	Old Ann.	New Ann.	Navy Bills.	Exch. Bills.	Wind Deal.	Weath. London
27	Sunday	56 1/2	57 1/2 a 56 3/4	72 1/2	17 3/4		125 1/2		55	Shut	55 1/2	Shut	18	12 Dif.	N W	Frost
28	Sunday	56 1/2	57 1/2	72 1/2			124 1/2		55		55 5/8		18 1/2	12	S W	
29	112	56 1/2	57 1/2 a 56 3/4	72 1/2				57 1/2	55				18 1/2		S W	
30	112 1/2	56 1/2													S W	
31	112	56 1/2													S E	
1	Holiday	55 1/2	56 1/2	72 1/2	17 1/4			52						12	S E	Rain
2		56 1/2	56 1/2	72 1/2				52							S W	
3	Sunday	56 1/2													S W	
4		56 1/2			17 1/2		125	52	48		55 1/4		19 1/2	12	S E	
5		56 1/2	56 1/2 a 57	72 1/2			124 3/4						20	13	S W	Fair
6		56 1/2	56 1/2 a 57	72 1/2			120 e.d.	52 1/2	42				21 1/2	15	S E	Frost
7	112 1/2	56 1/2	56 1/2 a 57	72 1/2			120 1/2	52 1/2	45				21	14	S W	Rain
8	112	56 1/2	56 1/2 a 57	72 1/2				52 1/2	51		55 1/2		20	14	S W	
9		56 1/2	56 1/2 a 57	72 1/2									19		S E	
10	Sunday	56 1/2													N E	Fair
11	112 1/2	56 1/2	57 1/2 a 56 3/4	72 1/2				52 1/2	50		55 1/2		19	14	E	Frost
12	111 1/2	56 1/2	56 1/2 a 57	72 1/2			118 1/2							15	S E	Fair
13	111	55 1/2	56 1/2 a 55 3/4	71 1/2			118 1/2	51 1/2	50		55 3/8		19	15	E	Rain
14	111	56 1/2	56 1/2 a 55 3/4	72 1/2									20 1/2	12	N E	
15	111	56 1/2	56 1/2 a 55 3/4	72 1/2			118 1/2		50		55 1/2		20 1/2		N W	
16		56 1/2	56 1/2 a 55 3/4	72 1/2			120 1/2		50				19 1/2	10	S	Fair
17	Sunday	55 1/2	56 1/2 a 55 3/4	71 1/2	17	12 1/2									S W	Fair
18	Holiday	55 1/2	55 1/2 a 54 3/4	72 1/2	16 3/4 e.d.	12 1/2 e.d.									S W	Frost
19		56 1/2	55 1/2 a 54 3/4	72 1/2	16 3/4	12 1/2									N W	Snow
20	112	56 1/2	55 1/2 a 54 3/4	73 1/2	16 3/4	12 1/2	120 1/2	52 1/2	50		55 3/8		19 1/2	10	N E	
21	112	56 1/2	55 1/2 a 54 3/4	72 1/2	16 3/4	12 1/2			50				19 1/2	10	N E	Frost
22	112	56 1/2	55 1/2 a 54 3/4	72 1/2	16 3/4	12 1/2	121	52 1/2	47				18 3/4	9	N E	
23		56 1/2	54 3/4 a 55 1/2	72 1/2	16 3/4	12 1/2			45						N E	
24	Sunday	56 1/2	54 3/4 a 55 1/2	72 1/2	16 3/4	12 1/2									N E	
25		56 1/2	54 3/4 a 55 1/2	72 1/2	16 3/4	12 1/2									N E	
26		56 1/2	54 3/4 a 55 1/2	72 1/2	16 3/4	12 1/2			44				18 1/2	8	N E	

N. B. In the 3 per Cent Consols. the highest and lowest Price of each Day is given; in the other Stocks the highest Price only.



THE  
LONDON MAGAZINE,  
ENLARGED AND IMPROVED,  
FOR FEBRUARY, 1784.

PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY.

TO prove the resources of the Company, the counsel for the proprietors produced a statement\* of their debts and property on the 19th Nov. 1783, and an estimate of their (probable) receipts and payments up to March 1786, authenticated by their auditor and accountant. The counsel for the Directors, as well as urging the injustice of invading the Company's interests, and attacking the honour of their servants, by turning them out of their offices without any cause, argued

LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.

against the impolicy of the bill, and the addition which it would make to the influence of the crown. The first consideration of the seven commissioners would be to provide, at all hazards, for their own relations and dependents; and these in their turn would study, above all things, to please their masters at home. The tide of corruption would flow with a more violent current from India than ever; and whether the House regarded its own purity, the rights of the Company, or the general

M privileges

\* As Mr. Fox stated exceptions to various sums mentioned in this account, to the amount of 12,000,000*l.* we have subjoined the following abstract of it:

D E B T O R.		C R E D I T O R.	
To what owing from the Company to the annuitants	£. 2,992,440	By what due from government to the Company for money advanced them	£. 4,200,000
To bonds bearing interest	1,996,700	By other debts due from government	422,011
To ditto not bearing interest	11,592	By cash and bonds	609,954
To customs on goods sold and unfold	1,641,254	By goods sold, not paid for	553,258
To the Exchequer for the last payment to government	100,000	By the value of goods in England unfold	2,500,000
To ditto for a loan of Exchequer bills and interest	302,587	By floating stock from England	1,219,091
To bills of exchange, &c. unpaid	2,489,093	By silver in the treasury in England paid for	1,090
To sundry debts on account of the trade	458,481	By what paid owners of ships not arrived in England	172,334
To interests on annuities, bonds, and stock	149,901	By the value of ships and vessels not stationed abroad	12,300
To half a year's dividend on stock due at Christmas next	128,000	By the value of the East-India-house and warehouses	253,616
To interest on military and contingent funds more than applied	72,639	By the nett balance of quick stocks at the several settlements, after deducting all debts owing by the Company in India and China	4,367,519
	10,342,692		
Balance in favour of the Company	3,968,481		
	14,311,173		14,311,173

This abstract, with a balance of nearly four millions in favour of the Company, wears a good face. But it must be confessed that every artifice had been used to swell the creditor, and sink the debtor side of the account, so that it is much less matter of wonder that Mr. Fox should be able to make such enormous exceptions, than that men of business should publish a statement of their affairs so liable to exception, exposed, as they knew it must be, to the keen eye of ministerial scrutiny and dissection. By so palpable an attempt to make their affairs appear in a better state than they really were in, they gave room to suspect that they were in a worse than they durst venture to acknowledge.

privileges of the nation, it could not suffer the bill to pass into a law. The counsel having withdrawn

Mr. Fox rose to state his reasons for sending the bill to a committee. He expressed his surprise at finding himself attacked on such new and unexpected ground. The violation of charters, the despotism and oppression of the bill, were arguments now nearly abandoned, and he was assailed on his strongest side. He even lamented that he was so strong there, for his strength was founded on the Company's weakness. As the bill was not the child of choice but of necessity, so the answer which he was about to give to the Directors' state of the Company's affairs was not a matter of option, but a matter which he could not avoid, in justice to the Company, in justice to himself, and in justice to the world. By means of insertions and omissions, the Company's affairs were made to appear in a much more favourable point of view than they really were in, and he pledged himself to state rational objections to articles in it, to the amount of *twelve millions*! Objections, which, whatever weight they might have with the House, were convincing to him. He then examined, in a most accurate and masterly manner, every article of the account. He detected various fallacies in the statement, discriminated the value of all property not convertible into money, but by the actual dissolution of the Company, their desperate debts at home and abroad, their military stores and dead stock, and objected to the amount of the whole, as forming no part of the Company's means to pay their debts, while the Company subsisted. By taking the 4,200,000*l.* lent to government at three-fifths of its nominal value, the price at which it would sell as 3 per cent. stock, he reduced it to 2,520,000*l.* 260,687*l.* charged for subsistence of prisoners in the war which concluded in 1763. 139,877*l.* for expences on the Manilla expedition, and 21,447*l.* for hospital expences, making together 422,011*l.* he objected to, as sums that had been long in contention, had been disallowed by every succeeding Treasury,

and, therefore, unfit to be estimated as applicable to the discharge of debts. Under the next article, cash and bonds, 280,575*l.* in bonds was stated as cash, and no notice taken of the discount the bonds must suffer, on being issued again, which being very considerable, ought to have been stated as an item in the debtor side of the account. In the article 1,219,091*l.* by floating stock from England, were included military stores to the amount of about half the sum, which were to be, if they had not already been, consumed by the army, and were not to be taken as available property. He, therefore, took 600,000*l.* on this article. The next sum reminded him of a curious bill in one of our great bard's best plays, where it is said so much for sack, so much for sugar, so much for this, so much for that; but for the solid, the substantial article, the staff of life, bread, one halfpenny: so it was with this flourishing company: they had millions in goods, in bonds, in debts; but in silver they had one solitary thousand pounds. The next article 172,334*l.* for the advance of freight, to be deducted on the arrival of the ships, was a complete and unpardonable fallacy. They had stated in their favour the advanced freight which they had paid, but they had omitted, on the other side, the sum of freight and demurrage, which they would have to pay. This on thirty-seven ships in India would amount to 1,850,000*l.* He objected to the sums of 12,300*l.* and 253,616*l.* which the sales of their shipping and houses in England would produce, as no such sale could take place but on the dissolution of the Company, an event which it was the object of the bill, if possible, to prevent. In the next article, the loss, which it was well known the Company suffered on Bengal goods, ought to have been allowed, and for this he took 113,824*l.* As the cargoes dispatched from Bengal to the other presidencies consisted of military stores, he objected to 364,515*l.* the value of them, for reasons already mentioned. Under the article of quick stock, &c. he excepted 680,509*l.* as the value of stores unexported, on the same argument.



argument. The sum advanced to the board of trade was stated to be 837,465*l.* and this was erroneous. The sum for investments was only 635,000*l.* and this ought to be less by 160,000*l.* He entered minutely into this error, and observed that the Company had valued the current rupee at 2*s.* 3*d.* though the general exchange was only 2*s.* The debt due by the Nabob Asoph ul Dowla, amounting to 789,828*l.* was in the nature of many other debts due in India, and which had been made the foundations of our various wars—wars of devastation and horror—we scoured deserted countries, we ravaged and burnt the villages, we destroyed or captured the women and the infants. In this manner the Rohillas one year, the Marawar country the next, the Polygars the next were laid waste and desolated. The men were murdered, the women imprisoned and disgraced, their children left a prey to want, and every religious and civil right violated. To prove this, he read a letter to the President and Council at Fort St. George, from Lieut. Col. Bonjour, a Swiss officer in the Company's service, which, for the honour of our country, we should blush to record. It depicted, in the warm colours of feeling, the scene of horror which the service exhibited, and deprecated such wars as inglorious and contemptible. "Thank God! (exclaimed Mr. Fox) they have always failed, and been as unproductive of revenue as they were productive of infamy. In every instance, we have failed in our object, but in none have we avoided the curses, the abhorrence, the contempt of mankind. To this debt, and others of the same description, making in all 2,822,310*l.* he objected, as equally unjust and desperate, being charged against persons who had been driven from their possessions, and made the victims of cruel wars, and who, therefore, had nothing to pay. It was remarkable that 502,174*l.* of arrears due to the army was not included in the gross sum of the Company's debts. Pity it was that no one was responsible for making up so fallacious and infamous an account. These

different sums made together about 9,500,000*l.* to this was to be added 3,200,000*l.* the capital stock of the proprietors, making in the whole considerably above 12,000,000*l.*

Viewed in this point, the affairs of the Company must appear to every man as calling loudly for the interposition of the legislature. But could not this be done without a violation of charter? Every regulation introduced by parliament in the management of the Company's affairs had been a violation of charter; but necessity had repeatedly obliged the legislature to have recourse to new measures. The Company was so connected with the state, that one could not be injured without the other. Since, therefore, the ruin of the Company was advancing, necessity called upon the nation to look to its own safety, by guarding against the ruin that threatened the Company. But why not give to the directors the power destined for the commissioners? They had given good orders, but their servants had disobeyed them. This was to him a sufficient reason for removing them; for no government was less fit for the management of public affairs, than that which was not able to enforce obedience among its own servants. By bringing forward and supporting this bill, he was well aware that he risked much. If he should fall, he would have the consolation to reflect, that he had fallen from having endeavoured, at the hazard of popularity and situation, to erect a system, by which there was a chance that India might be saved.

*Mr. W. Pitt* having bewildered himself in attempting to follow Mr. Fox through the dry business of figures and calculations, declaimed with vehemence against the bill, and moved to adjourn, though but till to-morrow, to compare the Company's and the minister's accounts.

*Lord North* defended the bill, and opposed the adjournment.

*Sir Richard Hill* endeavoured to turn the whole proceedings of the framer of the bill into ridicule.

*Mr. Erskine* defended the right and policy of the bill with considerable subtilit



subtlety and force of argument. He had always considered the very existence of such a body as the court of proprietors, for the government of such an important empire, by a ballot of men and women, and foreigners enemies to our prosperity, as impolitic and absurd. That a charter being a grant of powers and privileges to individuals for the benefit of the public, was liable in its very nature to revocation, when its continuation became detrimental, either from misuse or a change in circumstances not foreseen at the time of its institution. Those who were loudest in opposing the bill had already admitted the right, by calling for a new system, which could not be adopted without that violation of the Company's charter which they complained of. If, on the one hand, this charter was inviolable, there could be no sort of alteration, right being equally sacred in all its degrees. To call for a new system would, therefore, be vain. If, on the other, it could be justly altered in one degree upon one necessity, it might in another upon another necessity; which brought the whole to a question of policy, and put an end to the declamation concerning the infringement of rights.

*Mr. Macdonald* supported the motion for adjournment, and combated the arguments of *Mr. Erskine*. The doctrine respecting the infringement of charters was simple and well known. Both extremes of the proposition were absurd, either that they were to be altered, much less cancelled without ceremony, or that they were never, in any possible case, to be meddled with. The true line was, that state necessity would justify an alteration, provided that it were strictly commensurate to the necessity. The reason was obvious, because where two parties contracted in the ordinary way, neither of them had power to infringe or annul it, but a third tribunal must be resorted to: whereas in the case of a contract with the public, the one party was completely in the power of the other. It was then the true question in the present case, whether it was necessary to cut down the charter, root and branch, or

whether many amendments far short of so desperate a violation of contract would not be sufficient.

The motion for an adjournment was negatived, *noes* 229, *ayes* 120, and the bill committed for Monday.

Dec. 1st, when *Mr. Perceys* opposed the motion for going into a committee on the bill, on the ground so often trodden, as being an invasion of the Company's chartered rights, not for the benefit of the public, but the aggrandizement of particular men. *Mr. Burke* in reply, accused the Company of the most atrocious acts of barbarity and injustice. They had sold for money every Indian prince or Rajah with whom they had ever been connected; they never made a treaty of peace or alliance, which they had not broken; and their whole conduct in India had been one continued series of rapine, treachery, cruelty, and despotism. When we took possession of our territories in India, the number of souls had been estimated at FIFTY MILLIONS, but that by artificial famines, base monopolies, unnecessary wars, and barbarous massacres, the population had decreased to THIRTY MILLIONS. The debate then became general, and the former arguments for and against the bill were enforced by the usual speakers, and with the usual success. On a division there appeared *ayes* 217, *noes* 103. The call of the House was then adjourned by *Mr. Pitt* to Wednesday.

Dec. 2. In the House of Peers *the Earl of Spencer* took the oaths and his seat, in the room of his father deceased. A petition was presented from *Walter Nisbett, Esq. of Grafton-street, St. George, Hanover-square*, praying leave to bring in a bill for dissolving his marriage with *Mrs. Anne Nisbett*, his now wife, &c. Leave was given.

*The Earl of Abingdon*, after a speech of considerable length, which was indeed a very suitable exordium, made a very singular motion, for leave to lay a contemptible print, called the "Coalition dissected," on the table.

*Lord Sandwich*, with that decorum which always distinguishes his parliamentary conduct, instantly moved to adjourn.

adjourn. This produced an altercation on the point of order, in which the Duke of Richmond and Lord Thurlow contended that Lord Abingdon's motion ought first to be read from the woollack, and the question for adjournment put, by which means it would be entered on the journals of the House: while, on the other hand, Lords Mansfield and Sandwich insisted that a motion for adjournment might be made in the middle of a debate, and must be immediately put, taking place of every other matter before the House. The latter opinion was at length acquiesced in.

Dec. 3. The House of Commons in a committee went through the India bill. The blank for the seven commissioners was filled up with the names of

Earl Fitzwilliam

Hon. Frederick Montagu

Right Hon. George Legge, commonly called Lord Lewisham

Hon. George Augustus North

Sir Gilbert Elliot, Bart.

Sir Henry Fletcher, Bart. and

Robert Gregory, Esq.

That for the Assistant Directors, who were made nine in number, with those of Thomas Cheap, George Cumming, John Harrison, Richard Hall, John Michie, John Smith, George Tatem, Jacob Wilkinson, and Stephen Lushington, Esqrs. The act to be in force for four years from the time of the bill's receiving the royal assent. The report was upon motion immediately brought up, and ordered to be printed.

Dec. 4. *Mr. Lee*, the Attorney-General, moved the expulsion of Christopher Atkinson, Esq. *Mr. Bamber Gascoigne* moved to adjourn the question to the 24th of January next. The House divided on this motion, *Ayes* 62, *Noes* 131. The motion for expulsion was then carried.

*Mr. Alderman Newnham* divided the House on the repeal of the receipt tax, when there appeared for the repeal 47, against it 149.

Dec. 5. Resolved that 1,169,400l. be granted for discharging Exchequer bills. Read a second time the bill for the payment of the East-India Company's debts.

*Lord Ludlow* presented papers, pursuant to address, of his Majesty's orders in council, relative to the intercourse with America.

The order of the day being moved for going into a committee of supply, *Lord North* moved that it be an instruction to the said committee, to take into consideration the propriety of laying a small duty on the postage of Votes of the House, newspapers, &c. to Ireland, which was agreed to.

The House then resumed the consideration of the report from the committee on the India bill. *Mr. Fox* understanding that *Mr. Hufsey* intended to move a clause for disqualifying the nine assistant directors from sitting in the House, was willing to compromise the matter, and said he would consent to the disqualification, provided it did not extend to *Mr. Wilkinson*, the only director under the new bill who had at present a seat in the House, because that gentleman had declared, that he would not accept the office of Director, if by so doing he should be deprived of his seat. *Mr. Dempster* thought this proposal perfectly fair, and *Sir William Dolben* was of opinion, that two at least of the assistant directors ought to be in parliament, that they might occasionally give such information as might be necessary, such information being much more satisfactory, and taking up less time than any which could be given at the bar of the House. *Mr. Hufsey* persisted in thinking a disqualifying clause not only proper but necessary, and moved it accordingly. *Mr. Wilkinson* begged that his name might be struck out of the bill, as he would not, in consideration of the emoluments of office, surrender a franchise which he held so dear. The clause was then read and passed. Another clause was moved and passed, to restrain the Court of Proprietors from meeting and sitting as a general court oftener than once every quarter of a year.

Dec. 8. In a committee of supply, voted four shillings in the pound land tax.

*Mr. Fox* then moved the order of the day. *Lord Mahon* rose instantly, and said that order was for the third reading of



of the infamous India bill; but he had a motion to make first, which was for leave to bring up a petition against it from the mayor and aldermen of *Chipping Wycomb*. Leave was given without opposition. The third reading of the bill was then debated. *Mr. Hamilton*, who had taken his seat but a few days before, took the lead, and opposed it, as having been brought in under the most insidious pretences, and hurried through the House with the most indecent precipitation; as confiscating the property of the Company, and establishing a precedent, by which every corporation in the kingdom might be disfranchised one after another; and as adding such an increase of influence to the crown as must inevitably swallow up the liberty of the subject. Yet he afterwards said that, if it should pass, the monarch would be reduced to a mere cypher, a contradiction which had been frequent with the opposition in every stage of the bill, though, as was well observed by *Mr. Macdonald* on the second reading, nothing was more easily cleared up. When coupled with the legitimate influence of the crown, it would add to it ten fold; but if ever it should be contrasted to the influence of the crown by those subjects to whom it was to be leased for a term of years, a conflict must ensue, which might crush the constitution in the shock. He was answered by *Mr. Nichols*, who vindicated the bill from the harsh names of disfranchisement and confiscation, and maintained the necessity of a wholesome system, to rescue the Company's affairs from the distress into which mismanagement had plunged them. He would not say they were actually in a state of bankruptcy, but if a private merchant had done any of the many acts which the Company from necessity had done, he might legally be made a bankrupt.

*Mr. Wilkes* made an elegant and pointed speech against the bill. It was a bill both of confiscation and disfranchisement. No epithet could be too

harsh for it. It was a swindling bill, drawn and presented by the honourable secretary, to obtain money on false pretences. His argument in support of it was the actual poverty of the Company; but the real and well known motive was the certainty of future accruing wealth, and immense patronage, to enrich an Indian heptarchy of his creation, and through his tame viceroys, the Trinculo Viceroy of Asia. He admitted that the Company's servants had been guilty of the most enormous crimes, and detested their scandalous heterogeneous traffic of war and trade, speculation and murder. The national character had been lost in Indostan, provinces and kingdoms had been bought and sold, and the lives of princes set to sale. The mischief soon gained Europe, and we experienced all the calamities which Rome suffered in the declension of her empire, and from the same quarter, the East. We were ruined by the luxury and venality of our own despicable offspring, and all the vices of the East, which they propagated here too successfully, when they returned to purchase protection and indemnity for their crimes. He would, therefore, highly approve a bill for the government of the territorial possessions and revenues of India, which ought to depend on the state, but the regulation of all commercial concerns ought to rest with the proprietors and directors. This was their province, to this they were as competent as they were inadequate to dominion and the care of empires. The bill before the House was the bitter fruits of the coalition, and would never have appeared, if the wordy war had gone on between the two secretaries. The noble lord, indeed, had cast a longing eye on the fair prey, but he dreaded his opponent. As soon as he had secured a fit accomplice, by an impious league with his daring colleague, the plan and share of the plunder was adjusted, and the robbing of the Company resolved\*. If the immense patronage of India, a

patronage

\* Here *Mr. Wilkes* disclaimed all personality against either of the secretaries, and bore the following testimony to the character of each. "I believe that the noble lord possesses the most perfect personal



patronage of above two millions sterling a year, was to be given to the crown, its overgrown power must soon swallow up the two other branches of the legislature. If it was to be seized by a minister at the head of a proud and hateful aristocracy, both the sovereign and the people would be the slaves of a faction. One only resource would then remain in the great revolution of human events, a circumstance to be wished by the friends of humanity, and possibly not very distant, that the French, Dutch, and Portuguese, as well as the English, might be entirely swept away from the countries in the East, which they had so cruelly laid waste, and made the theatre of the most flagitious enormities.

*General Burgoyne* referred to the volumes of reports from the select and secret committees, for proofs of the Company's delinquency. He should lament if the labours of the two committees, which had begotten such sanguine hopes in the breasts of the Indians, should not be attended with a reform in India.

*Mr. Scott* very candidly waved all declamation on the violation of charters, and confined himself to the necessity and policy of the bill, as the true grounds of argument. He denied the necessity for so strong a remedy, and thought that as the Court of Directors had given the very best orders, they might be invested with sufficient power to enforce obedience. By so doing, the power, though not immediately in the Court of Proprietors, would still be in the Company; whereas, by the present bill, it would be placed in the hands of men

not appointed by the Company, and unknown to them. This being his opinion, the remedy proposed was certainly a bad one. Yet it had been defended on this principle, that it drew influence from its lurking hole, and gave it to persons who being known, would be obliged to take up responsibility with it. This very boasted responsibility alarmed him. He was afraid that one responsibility would cover another, or that all who were responsible might make a common cause. Thus responsible ministers would screen responsible directors, and *vice versa*. He paid some handsome compliments to Lord North, and still higher to Mr. Fox, and strained a quotation from the Revelations into an allusion to the bill, which, if it was not witty, was at least indecent.

*Mr. Anstruther* imputed the evils in India to the insufficiency of the Court of Directors. Their votes were in secret by ballot, which rendered it impossible to know to what measures any one gave his assent, and took away all responsibility. But these were not its only defects, the constitution, by the rotation established in 1773, contained in it a principle of perpetual change and fluctuation. Hence, when orders were sent to India, they were disregarded by their servants there, because they were sure that, before the news of their disobedience arrived in England, the direction would be changed, six of their enemies would be out, and six of their friends would be in, and then it would be attended with impunity. These were not theoretical evils, they had produced every effect that

personal integrity. His own probity is unblemished, but a lust of power, and an unlucky indolence of temper, combined to make him, through the course of the last war, connive at almost every man in every department fleecing the public beyond the example of all former times. His own hands were clean: not so those of the whole tribe of his contractors and dependents. The noble lord has a rich vein of pure, elegant, classical wit, the most easy manners, and unaffected good-nature, with every amiable, and companionable quality. He is formed to be admired and beloved as a private nobleman: would to heaven I could commend his reverence for the constitution, his love of liberty and his zeal for the preservation of those noble privileges and franchises, which are the birthright of Englishmen! With his colleague I have acted against his lordship for many years. I fought by his side through the whole American war, and in all the struggles against the too great power of the crown. I have frequently been in raptures from the strains of his manly eloquence, the force of his reasoning, and the torrent of his oratory. So perfect a parliamentary debater this House has never known. I grieve when I recollect how unavailing all our tedious struggles have been, and that so large a part of the empire has been torn from us; but I am indignant when I see the noble lord in one of the highest offices of the state, brought back to power, and caressed by the very man who undertook to impeach him, as the great criminal of the state, the corruptor of parliament, the author and contriver of our ruin.

that was to be expected from a weak, fluctuating, unresponsible executive power, lodged in the hands of a multitude. If then the disease lay in the constitution at home, the constitution at home must be altered. But gentlemen called for proofs of the necessity. Let the government of the Company be looked at in any possible point of view, and every thing was justified. If considered in a pecuniary light, with five millions of revenue they had come to the bar of that House three times in fifteen years, begging for loans to save them from bankruptcy. If as politicians, they had broken every treaty, they had forfeited every engagement; if as sovereigns, they had torn up the title to the estate of every man in Bengal, by their orders to let the lands to the highest bidder; and yet more strange, if in a commercial point of view, before they got the Dewannee of Bengal, they traded on a small capital, and gained on the Bengal trade alone 200,000*l.* a year, and now, when the country and the revenues were their own, they traded at an annual loss of nearly the same sum. With such an outline of their constitution and conduct, was it possible to contend that such a government ought to continue. It was absurd to say that they would allow anarchy and tyranny to remain, and leave India in a state of desolation and misery, because they were afraid to trust the crown with the necessary powers of government.

*Sir Richard Hill* attacked the bill in his quaint ironical way, and said that he would support it, if the title were made consistent with the principle, by the following amendment: "A bill for strengthening the influence of his Majesty's present ministers; for clearing the way for the abolition of several useless charters yet existing in this kingdom; and for affording a speedy provision for several respectable friends, jobbers, and adherents of his Majesty's present ministers, which friends, jobbers, and adherents are now labouring under the most necessitous circumstances, and very importunate to be relieved."

*Mr. Powys* recapitulated his former

arguments against the bill, and adjured the House not to suffer it to go to a third reading, but to seize it as an instrument of destruction going forth against the constitution. He reproached *Mr. Fox* with having sneered at the impotent independence of the country gentlemen.

*Mr. Fox* denied the imputation. What he had said, and what had been thus misrepresented, was, that he would not have any individual so vain of his independence, as to suppose that his single vote, given in direct contradiction to the evidence of his senses, would decide and govern a question. He would willingly rest the bill entirely on its popularity, when rightly understood, and stripped of the false colours that had been so artfully put upon it.

*Mr. W. Pitt* was severe and personal in reply to *Mr. Fox*. He observed on the case of the county members, and asserted that it was an object with government to annihilate their consequence. This he considered as a counterpart to the bill, both having originated in the same spirit of tyranny and oppression. He still urged the fallacy of the minister's statement, and the fairness of the Company's own account of their affairs.

*The Attorney-General* reprehended *Mr. Pitt* for his personality, and strenuously defended the bill on its several grounds, necessity, influence, and expediency. He insisted, that necessity would justify the infringement of charters in many cases. What could be so sacred as to demand preference in competition with the publick good? Was a charter any thing more than an instrument assigning certain specific powers to a few for the benefit of the whole? When the end was no longer to be obtained, could the deed or instrument be of any farther use? Was a sheet of parchment with a seal at the end of it to be preferred to the happiness of thirty millions of people?

*Mr. Arden* retorted on the Attorney-General, reprobated the bill, and denied the necessity or utility of it.

*Mr. Rigby* said that so long ago as the year 1772 he had been on a committee



committee of East-India enquiry; that at that time they saw enough to make them shudder, and a bill of regulation was brought in and passed next year. He was surprised how those who supported that bill could have the inconsistency to oppose this. The charter of the Company was violated then, and so it must be again, or all pretence to reform must be abandoned.

*Mr. Jenkinson* stated his old objection of the bill's creating a new executive government within the realm, independent of the crown, and reminded the House that it would commit this country for all the debts that were or might be due in the East.

*Mr. Dundas* defended his bill of last year, which had been pretty freely handled by comparison with the present bill.

*Mr. Sheridan* replied to *Mr. Dundas*, and as nothing is beneath the notice of a wit by profession, he gave a new turn to the quotations from Scripture, by additional quotations of his own, to the entertainment of at least one side of the House.

The Speaker was now proceeding to put the question, when *Mr. Flood* rose, and in compliment to him as a new member, and a speaker of great expectation, profound silence obtained. He professed himself totally unacquainted with the subject of India concerns, and the principle of the bill, and yet made a long speech against it, which of course consisted of general remarks, abstract and hypothetical positions, and wanted application, rapidity, and fervour.

*Mr. Courtenay* immediately applied

his wit to the cold harangue of his countryman, and turned every thing he had said into ridicule, glancing some side strokes at *Mr. Dundas*.

The House then divided, *Ayes* 208. *Noes* 102,

*The Solicitor-General* next moved a short clause, declaring it a public bill. *Mr. Arden* had no objection, but wondered not that this had escaped the honourable gentleman till then, since every body considered the bill as a private job. The names of *Stephen Lushington* and *Jacob Wilkinson, Esqrs.* were scratched out by their own desire, and those of *Joseph Sparkes* and *James Moffat* received in their stead. The bill was read through and passed, and ordered to be carried up to the Lords by *Mr. Fox*,

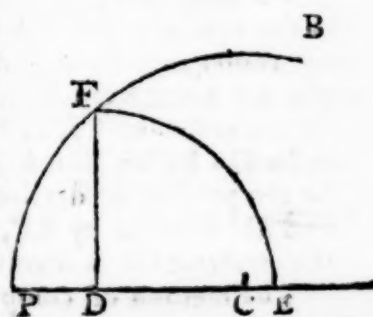
*Dec. 9.* Who next day, attended by many members of the House of Commons, presented it at their Lordships bar. Being received by Lord Mansfield, it was carried to the table and read a first time. Monday the 15th was fixed for the second reading, and the bill ordered to be printed on motion by the Duke of Portland. *The Earl of Temple* got up, happy, he said, to seize the first opportunity of entering his protest against so infamous a bill; and as every kind of evidence that could be procured would be requisite to prove that the necessity, which was the only plea that could justify such a measure, was not fallacious, he asked the noble Duke whether ministers would object to any motion that might be made for other papers, beside the partial selection on the table.

## M A T H E M A T I C S.

### ANSWERS TO MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS.

22. QUESTION (I. October) answered by *Mr. W. RICHARDS*, of Blackwater, near Truro, in Cornwall.

LET *PFB* represent an arc of the meridian, the center being *C*, and pole *P*. Suppose *PF* the complement of the required latitude, of which the sine is *FD*, and which, consequently, is the radius of the parallel. Describe the quadrant *FE*, from *D*, as a center, with the radius *DF*: then, by the question, *FE* must exceed *FP* by the greatest quantity possible; which will be when their flux-  
LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.





ions are equal. But the fluxion of  $PF$  is expressed by  $\frac{PC}{DC} \times \dot{D}F$ , and that of  $FE$  by  $\frac{3,14159, \&c.}{2} \times \dot{D}F$ . Consequently  $PC \div DC = \frac{3,14159, \&c.}{2}$ ; or  $3,14159, \&c. : 2 :: PC : DC :: 1 : ,636618$ , the cosine of  $39^\circ 32\frac{1}{2}'$ , the latitude sought.

This question was also answered in a very ingenious manner by Mr. Isaac Dalby, Mr. E. L. Duffaut, γ Draconis, the Rev. Mr. Hellins, and Mathematicus, the proposer.

23. QUESTION (II. Oct.) answered by Mr. I. DALBY.

1st. In the stereographic projec. (Fig. 1.) let the primitive represent the horizon;  $gb$ ,  $mn$ , the given almicanter; and let  $ZP$ , the co-lat. be less than the zenith dist. of either almicanter. Describe the circle  $MP$  for the locus of the pole: now suppose the change in azimuth was required to be a given quantity. Draw  $ZS$ , and make the  $\angle SZs =$  the proposed change in azimuth. Through  $S$ , describe the arc of a great circle  $Ss$ , which bisect with the great circ.  $BOQ$ , cutting it at right angles in  $B$ ; then if great circles are supposed to be drawn through  $O$  and  $S$ ,  $O$  and  $s$ ;  $oS$  or  $os$ , the intercepted arcs, will be the polar distance of the star answering the conditions of the prob. This needs no demonstration.

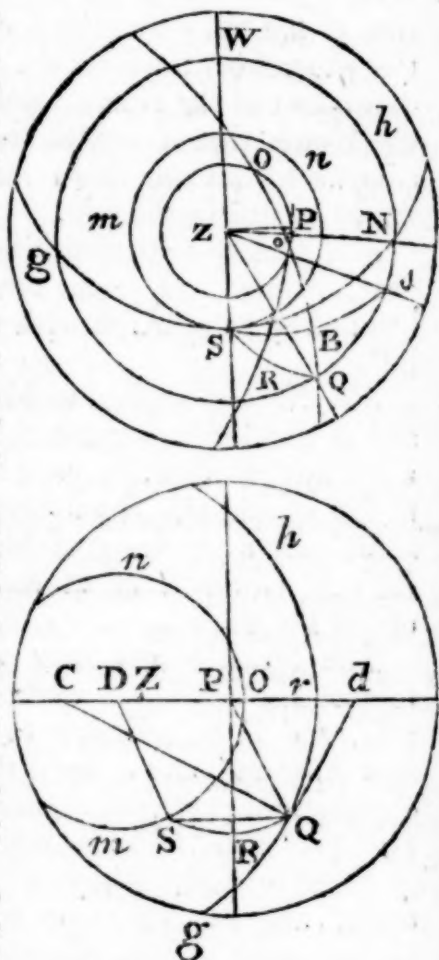
Let us next suppose the point  $S$  to be fixed, and the azim. or  $\angle SZs$  to increase. It will be evident that it is augmented as the arc  $Ss$  increases; but  $Ss$  will increase until the parallel  $NSA$  is described to touch the almicanter  $mn$  in  $S$ , in which case the place of the pole will be  $M$ ; as is too obvious to need further demonstration. If, therefore, round  $M$ , as a pole, at the distance  $MS$ , a parallel of declination be described, it will be that of the star whose change in azimuth is a *maximum* in passing from the almicanter  $gb$  to the almicanter  $mn$ .

If the distance of the almicanter be equal to twice the complement of the latitude,  $MW$  will be equal to  $MS$ ; and the parallel described, as directed above, will touch both almicanter: in which case the greatest change in azimuth will be  $180^\circ$ . But if the distance of the almicanter exceed twice the co-latitude, the question does not then admit of a *maximum*.

Again, suppose  $Ss$ , or the  $\angle SZs$ , to diminish; and, at the same time, the arc  $Ss$  to remain bisected by the perp. as before: then it is obvious that the prob. will be possible for a given quantity, as long as the perpendicular  $BO$  cuts or touches the circ.  $MP$ ; and, therefore, when it touches it, or is in the position  $RP$ , that will evidently be its position when the change in azimuth is a *minimum*. Hence, if a great circle  $PR$  be drawn to touch the locus of the pole,  $MP$ , and about the pole,  $P$ , a parallel,  $SQ$ , be described so that the intercepted arc,  $SQ$ , is bisected by  $PR$ , that will be the parallel of declination required, and  $RP$  the polar dist. when the change in azimuth is a *minimum*.

To effect this, let (Fig. 2.) the projec. be on the plane of the equator, where  $Z$  is the zen.  $mn$ ,  $gb$ , the almicanter, as before;  $D$  and  $C$  their centers: now  $P$  being the center of all the parallels of declination, we are to draw the paral.  $SQ$  so that the arc  $SR=RQ$ ; but when  $SR=RQ$ , the chord  $SQ$  will be bisected by  $RP$ . Therefore, take  $Pd=PD$ , and apply  $dQ=DO$ , the rad. of the almicanter  $mn$ , and draw  $QS \parallel dD$ : join  $PQ$ , and with it, as a rad. describe the arc  $QRS$ , which will be the parallel of declination required. For  $dQ$  being  $=DO$ ,  $=DS$ , and  $QS \parallel dD$ , and  $Dd$  bisected by  $RP$ , at right angles to it, it will, therefore, bisect  $QS$ ; whence the construction is manifest.

The method of computation may be thus: Draw  $CQ$ ; then, in the plane  $\Delta$   $CQd$ ,



CQd, the three sides are given, viz.  $Qd = DS = \frac{1}{2} \times \text{tang.} \frac{ZO + ZP}{2} + \text{tang.} \frac{ZO - ZP}{2}$ ,

$CQ = \frac{1}{2} \times \text{tang.} \frac{Zr + ZP}{2} + \text{tang.} \frac{Zr - ZP}{2}$ , and  $Cd = \text{tang.} \frac{PC}{2} + \text{tang.} \frac{Pd}{2}$ , whence

either of the  $\angle$ s at C or d may be found. Then there will be given two sides and the included  $\angle$  to find the other side, PQ; which will be the tang. of half the polar dist. required.

2d. If the co-lat. be equal to the zen. dist. of the highest almicanter, the question still admits of a minimum, which is determined as in the foregoing case, and limited in the same manner.

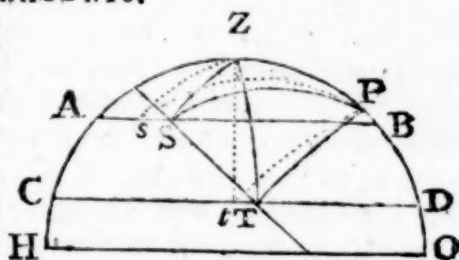
3d. If the co-lat. be greater than the zen. dist. of the upper almicanter, but their diff. less than half the dist. of the almicanter, it still admits of a min. which is found as above.

4th. But if the above-mentioned diff. be equal to, or greater than half the dist. of the almicanter; or if the co-lat. be equal to, or greater than the zenith dist. of the lowest almicanter, in all these cases the least change in azim. will be nothing; but the max. is determined in the same manner in all these cases; the polar dist. being universally equal the sum of the co-lat. and zenith dist. of the highest almic. and consequently the paral. of dec. touches that almicanter on the merid.

☞ The letter M is wanting where the line ZW cuts the circle mSn.

The same answered by  $\gamma$  DRACONIS.

Let CAZBD represent the meridian, AB, CD the two given almicanter, PZ the given comp. of latitude, and Ps = PT, the co-decl. sought. Now, if the co-decl. be supposed to be increased to Ps, it is evident the angle SZT will be increased by the angle sZS and diminished by the angle tZT but since it is a minimum this increment must be equal to its decrement tZT. By considering the ratio of the fluxions of the several parts of the triangles SZP, TZP; of which two sides are



constant, we get  $sZS = \frac{\dot{P}s \times R^2}{S.PZ.S.ZPS}$  and  $tZT = \frac{\dot{P}s \times R^2}{S.PZ.S.ZPT}$ : wherefore

$\frac{\dot{P}s \times R^2}{S.PZ.S.ZPS} = \frac{\dot{P}s \times R^2}{S.PZ.S.ZPT}$ , or  $S.ZPT = S.ZPS$ ; from which I conclude (since it is impossible that the  $\angle$  ZPT should ever equal ZPS) that ZPT is the supplement of ZPS, or that APS = TPD. If, therefore, we call the cosine of ZPS  $x$ , the cosine of ZPT will be  $-x$ ; and, by a theorem in trigonometry,  $x \times CS.PZ \times CS.PS + S.PZ \times S.PS = CS.ZS$ ; and also  $-x \times CS.PZ \times CS.PS + S.PZ \times S.PS = \pm CS.ZT$ ; where the negative sign must be used if the almicanter are on different sides of the horizon HO, from which, by equating the two values of  $x$ , we have  $CS.ZS \pm CS.ZT$ .

$ZT = 2 \times CS.PZ \times CS.PS$  or rad. :  $\frac{CS.ZS \pm CS.ZT}{2} :: S. \text{ lat.} : S. \text{ decl.}$

Q. E. I.

Another Answer to the same by Mr. ROBERT PHILLIPS, of St. Agnes, Cornwall.

Let HZPO be the meridian (see the last fig.) Z the zenith, P the elevated pole, TS the parallel of declination of the star, and T and S its places when on the given almicanter. Put the sine and cosine of  $PZ = s$  and  $c$ , those of  $TZ = p$  and  $q$ , those of  $SZ = m$  and  $n$ , and the cosines of the angles SZP and TZP =  $x$  and  $y$ . Then by a well-known theorem in spherics, the cosine of  $PT = spy + cq$ , and that of  $PS = smx + cn$ ; now PT and PS being each of them the complement of the star's declination, are equal; consequently  $spy + cq = smx + cn$ , and  $y = \frac{smx + cn - cq}{sp}$ . Now,

since the angle TZS, the change in azimuth is a max. or min. its fluxion must be equal 0, and consequently the fluxion of the angle TZP = the fluxion of the angle

SZP; that is, supposing radius equal to unity,  $\frac{\dot{x}}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \frac{\dot{y}}{\sqrt{1-y^2}}$ . But  $y =$

N 2

smx



$\frac{smx+cn-cq}{sp}$ ; consequently  $\frac{y}{\sqrt{1-y^2}} = \frac{smx}{\sqrt{s^2p^2-smx+cn-cq}} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$ , and  $\frac{sm}{\sqrt{s^2p^2-smx+cn-cq}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$ , or  $x = \frac{s^2 \times p^2 - m^2 - c^2 \times n - q^2}{2 scm \times n - q}$ ; from whence every thing wanted may be found.

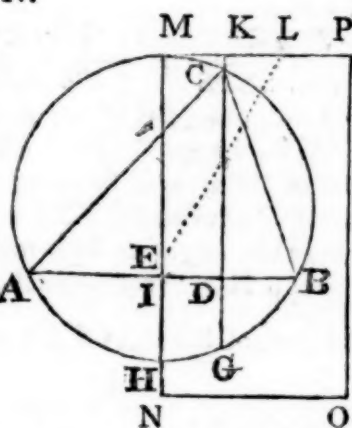
24. QUESTION (III. Oct.) answered by Mr. GEORGE GARNONS.

Since the children had equal shares, if the number of guineas be found that one child had, the work is done. Let  $x$  be the number of guineas the father left behind him: then, by the question,  $1 + \frac{x-1}{7} = \frac{6+x}{7}$ , is the eldest son's share; and  $2 + \frac{x}{7} - \frac{2}{7} - \frac{6+x}{7 \times 7} = \frac{78+6x}{49}$ , will be the second son's share; which being equal to the share of the first, we have  $\frac{6+x}{7} = \frac{78+6x}{49}$ , and  $x = 36$ , the number of guineas; also  $\frac{6+x}{7} = 6$ , the number each child had: consequently there were also 6 children.

y Draconis, after answering the question in a manner not materially different from Mr. Garnons, observes, that "every square number admits of such a division as is described in the question, and the value of the several divisions is equal to the root of that square number. Also the particular number by which the succeeding remainders are divided must necessarily be the root increased by unity; as will be evident to him who divides  $m-1$  by  $m$  in the aforefaid manner." A remark to the same purport with the latter part of this, was also made by Mr. W. Richards. Answers to the question were also received from Mr. Bromfield of Dunchurch, Mr. Dalby, Mr. Duffaut, the Rev. Mr. Hellins, Mr. R. Phillips, and Taffo.

25. QUESTION (IV. Oct.) answered by Mr. JOHN HAMPSHIRE.  
CONSTRUCTION.

Let MNOP be the rectangle to which that contained by the given sides is to be equal, ME the given perpendicular, and ML the difference of the segments of the base. Take MH a fourth proportional to ME, MP and MN, and on MH describe a circle AMBH. Bisect ML in K, draw KG cutting the circle in C and G, and make CD=ME. Through D draw AB parallel to MP; join A and C, B and C, and ABC will be the triangle required.



DEMONSTRATION.

It is manifest that ID (half the difference of DA and DB, the segments of the base) = MK =  $\frac{1}{2}$  ML; and CD=ME by construction. Moreover, because ME : MP :: MN : MH, by construction, MP  $\times$  MN = ME  $\times$  MH (Euc. VI. 16.) = DC  $\times$  MH = AC  $\times$  CB, by *Simp. Geom. Prop. 25. B. III.* Q. E. D.

SCHOLIUM.

If E and L be joined, EL must not be greater than MH, a fourth proportional to ME, MP, and MN, as is too obvious to need demonstration.

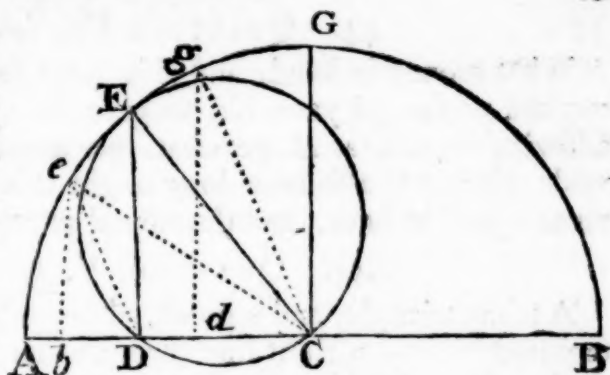
This question was constructed, from the same principle, by Mr. Dalby, Mr. Duffaut, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Robbins, the proposer, and Mr. Sanderson.

26. QUESTION (V. Oct.) answered by Mr. GEORGE SANDERSON, the proposer.  
CONSTRUCTION.

Through the points D and C describe, by Prob. XII. of Mr. Lawson's Tangencies, a circle, DCE, to touch the given circle, AGB, in E; and E will be the point required.



For the angle DEC is manifestly greater than any other angle that can be formed by lines drawn from C and D to meet in the circumference of the circle AGB. But DEC is the difference of the angles ADE and ACE; consequently the difference of the angles ADE, ACE is greater in that position than in any other. Now it is well known, that when any two quantities begin to increase, or decrease, one uniformly, and the other with a continued accelerated or retarded velocity, the difference of these two quantities will be the greatest when the velocities with which they increase or decrease are equal. Consequently E is the point where the angular velocities of the lines CE and DE are equal.



In a manner not essentially different, the question was answered by *γ Draconis*, the Rev. Mr. Hellins, Mr. R. Phillips, Mr. W. Richards, and Mr. Isaac Dalby, who observes that the point E will be determined in the same manner, let the path of it be a line of any kind whatsoever.

An Algebraic Answer to the same by Mr. T. TODD.

Let AGB (see the last fig.) be the given circle, C its center, D the given point; and let us suppose *e* to be that required: moreover, let *eC*, *eD* be drawn; also *Cg* parallel to *eD*, and *gd*, *eb* both perpendicular to AB. Put  $n = CD$ ,  $v = Cb$ ,  $y = gd$ , and  $r =$  the radius  $Ce = Cg$ ; then will *Db* be expressed by  $v - n$ , *eb* by  $\sqrt{r^2 - v^2}$ , *eD* by  $\sqrt{r^2 + n^2 - 2nv}$ , and the fluxions of the angles ADe (ACg) and ACe, that

is, of the arcs Ae and Ag by  $\frac{rv}{\sqrt{r^2 - v^2}}$ , and  $\frac{ry}{\sqrt{r^2 - y^2}}$ . Now, by similar triangles,

$\sqrt{r^2 + n^2 - 2nv} (De) : \sqrt{r^2 - v^2} (eb) :: r (Cg) : \frac{r\sqrt{r^2 - v^2}}{\sqrt{r^2 + n^2 - 2nv}}$ ,  $= gd =$

$y$ : consequently,  $\frac{ry}{\sqrt{r^2 - y^2}} = \frac{-r^4v\dot{v} - r^2n^2\dot{v} + nr^2v^2\dot{v} + r^4n\dot{v}}{\sqrt{r^2 - v^2} \times r^2 + n^2 - 2nv \times rn - r\dot{v}}$ ,  $=$  (by the quest.)

$\frac{rv}{\sqrt{r^2 - v^2}}$ . Hence, by reduction,  $v - n = 0$ , or  $v = n$ ; that is,  $Cb = CD$ ; and consequently the point *e* is found by drawing a line from the point D perpendicular to the diameter AB.

Mr. W. Jones, mathematical instrument maker, in Holborn, answered the 3d and 4th Questions; but his letter did not come to hand till this sheet was composed.

### MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS.

41. QUESTION I. by Mr. E. L. DUFFAUT, of the Rev. Mr. James's Academy, at Greenwich.

It is required to cut a given upright elliptical cone, geometrically, so that the section may be a circle.

42. QUESTION II. by ASTRONOMICUS.

It is required to find what vertical circle the star Aldebaran is on, at London, when its change in azimuth is at the rate of  $15'$  of a degree in one minute of time; also what vertical circles it is on when its change in azimuth bears the greatest and least ratio possible to the diurnal motion.

43. QUESTION III. by TASSO, of Bath.

Given  $\begin{cases} x+y+z+v=57 \\ xy+zv=384 \\ xyz+yzv=1944 \\ xyzv=8640 \end{cases}$  to find  $x, y, z,$  and  $v$ .


44. QUESTION

44. QUESTION IV. *by Mr. THOMAS TODD.*

What money in hand, and also what sum, as an annual payment during life, ought a person 36 years old to give for 172l. payable at his death to his heirs; allowing interest at 4l. per cent. per annum. and the first annual payment to be made directly: also how long ought this life to continue to make the whole money paid at once, and the annual payments, made as above, amount to 172l.

45. QUESTION V. *by Mr. ISAAC DALBY.*

A plane triangle, and a point, either within or without it, being given; it is required to draw a right line through that point, to cut the sides about the vertical angle of the triangle, so that the parts of them adjacent to that angle, when added to, or subtracted from two given right lines, respectively, may obtain a given ratio.

 The answers to these questions are requested before the 1st of May, and may be directed (post-paid) to Mr. Baldwin, in Paternoster-row, London.

## NATURAL HISTORY.

ACCOUNT OF THE BLACK CANKER CATERPILLAR, WHICH DESTROYS THE TURNIPS IN NORFOLK. BY WILLIAM MARSHALL, ESQ. IN A LETTER TO CHARLES MORTON, M. D. F. R. S.

Read at the Royal Society, February 8, 1783.

S I R,

*Gunton, near Aylsham, Norfolk, Aug. 22, 1782.*

A Few months after you did me the honour of presenting my minutes of agriculture to the British Museum, I came down into Norfolk, as agent to Sir Harbord Harbord.

To a person intelligent in matters of agriculture it would be superfluous to say, that Norfolk is celebrated for good husbandmen; or that the turnip crop is the basis of the Norfolk husbandry. If a Norfolk farmer loses his crop of turnips, his farm is injured for several succeeding years; for it is not only the loss of the immediate profit, which would otherwise have arisen to him from his bullocks, but his land is deprived of the consequent manure and trampling (esteemed highly beneficial to the light lands of this county) on which his future crops of corn are essentially dependant.

Among the numerous enemies to which turnips are liable, none have proved more fatal here than the Black Canker (a species of caterpillar) which in some years have been so numerous as to cut off the farmer's hopes in a few days. In other years, however, the damage has been little, and in others nothing. About twenty years ago the whole country was nearly

stripped; and this year it has been subjected to a similar fate. Many thousands of acres, upon which a fairer prospect for a crop of turnips has not been seen for many years, have been plowed up; and as, from the season being now far spent, little profit can be expected from a second sowing; the loss to the farmers, individually, will be very considerable, and to the county immense.

It was observed in the canker-year above-mentioned, that, prior to the appearance of the caterpillars, great numbers of yellow flies were seen busy among the turnip plants; and it was then suspected, that the canker was the caterpillar state of the yellow fly; and since that time it has been remarked, that cankers have regularly followed the appearance of these flies. From their more frequently appearing on the sea-coast, and from the vast quantities which have, I believe, at different times, been observed on the beach, washed up by the tide, it has been a received opinion among the farmers, that they are not natives of this country, but come across the ocean, and observations this year greatly corroborate the idea. Fishermen upon the eastern



eastern coast declare, that they actually saw them arrive in cloud-like flights; and from the testimony of many, it seems to be an indisputable fact, that they first made their appearance on the eastern coast; and, moreover, that on their first being observed, they lay upon and near the cliffs so thick and so languid, that they might have been collected into heaps, lying it is said, in some places two inches thick. From thence they proceeded into the country, and even at the distance of three or four miles from the coast they were seen in multitudes resembling swarms of bees. About ten days after the appearance of the flies, the young caterpillars were first observed on the under sides of the leaves of the turnips, and in seven or eight days more, the entire plants, except the stronger fibres, were eaten up. A border under the hedge was regularly spared until the body of the inclosure was finished; but this done, the border was soon stripped, and the gateway, and even the roads have been seen covered with caterpillars travelling in quest of a fresh supply of turnips; for the grasses, and indeed every plant, except the turnip and the charlock (*sinapis arvensis*) they entirely neglect, and even die at their roots, without attempting to feed upon them. This destruction has not been confined within a few miles of the eastern coast, but has reached, more or less, into the very center of the county. The mischief, however, in the western parts of Norfolk, and even on the north coast, has been less general; but I am afraid it may be said, with a great deal of truth, that one half of the turnips in the county have been cut off by this voracious animal.

A circumstance so discouraging to industry, and injurious to the public at large, will, I flatter myself, Sir, be thought a sufficient apology for my troubling you with a relation of it, and for my taking the liberty of sending you a male and a female fly, also one of the animals in its caterpillar, and one which is in its chrysalis state, for your inspection, hoping that the public may become acquainted with the means of preventing in future so great a calamity.

Lest the flies may become disfigured in travelling, it may be prudent to say, that their wings are four; that their antennæ are clubbed, and about one-third of the length of their body, each being composed of nine joints, namely, two next the head, above which two there is a joint somewhat longer than the rest, and above this six more joints, similar to the two below; that near the point of the tail of the female there is a black speck, outwardly fringed with hair; but which, opening longitudinally, appears to be the end of a case, containing a delicate point or stinging (about one-twentieth of an inch in length) which on a cursory view appears to be a simple lanceolated instrument, with a strong line passing down the middle, and ferrated at its edges; but, on a closer inspection, and by agitating it strongly with the point of a needle, it separates into three one-edged instruments, hanger-like as to their general form, with a spiral line or wrinkle winding from the point to the base, making ten or twelve revolutions, which line, passing over their edges, gives them some appearance of being ferrated.

By the help of these instruments, I apprehend, the female deposits her eggs in the edge of the turnip-leaf (or sometimes, perhaps, in the nerves or ribs on the under surface of the leaf;) thus far I can say, and I think with a considerable degree of certainty, that having put some fresh turnip leaves into a glass containing several of the male and female flies, I perceived (by the means of a simple magnifier) that one of the females, after examining attentively the edge of the leaf, and finding a part which appeared to me to have been bitten, unsheathed her instruments, insinuated them into the edge of the leaf, and having forced them asunder so as to open a pipe or channel between them, placed her pubes (the situation of which from repeated and almost incessant copulations I had been able to ascertain precisely, and to the lower part of which these instruments seem to be fixed) to the orifice, and having remained a few seconds in that posture, deliberately drew

drew out the instruments (which the transparency of the leaf held against a strong light, afforded me an opportunity of seeing very plainly) and proceeded to search for another convenient place for her purpose.

The caterpillar has twenty feet (six of its legs being of considerable length, the other fourteen very short) and in its first stage is of a jetty black, smooth as to a privation of hair, but covered with innumerable wrinkles. Having acquired its full size, it fixes its hinder parts firmly to the leaf of a turnip, or any other substance, and breaking its outer coat or slough near the head, crawls out, leaving the skin fixed to the leaf, &c. The under coat, which it now appears in, is of a blueish or lead colour, and the caterpillar is evidently diminished in its size. In every respect it is the same animal as before, and continues to feed on the turnips for some days longer: it then entirely leaves off eating, and becomes covered with a dewy moisture, which seems to exude from it in great abundance, and appearing to be of a glutinous nature, retains any loose or pliant substance which happens to come in contact with it, and by this means alone seems to form its chrysalis coat. One I find laid up in the fold of a withered turnip leaf (that which I have the honour of inclosing to you) was, among six others, formed by putting common garden mould to them while they were in the exsudatory state above described.

From the generic characters of the fly I conclude it to be a *Tenthredo* of HILL; but whether that voluminous author be sufficiently accurate; or whether, from being an almost entire stranger to natural history, I may, or may not, sufficiently understand my book, I must beg leave to submit to your superior knowledge of the subject.

I am endeavouring to extend my observations on these insects, and am making some experiments concerning them, the result of which I should be extremely happy in being permitted to communicate to you; and it may be proper to add here, that I should not have taken the liberty of troubling you prematurely with this letter, had I not luckily met with an opportunity of procuring some live flies (which are now become very scarce); and I flatter myself they will come to your hands in a perfect state.

I am with the greatest respect, &c.

#### INTELLIGENCE.

WE hear that Dr. *Monro*, Professor of Anatomy in the university of Edinburgh, is preparing a large and splendid work, concerning the general, but more particularly the auditory anatomy and physiology of fishes. It is expected that it will be published by the end of this winter, or at farthest at the beginning of the approaching spring.

## C H E M I S T R Y.

### ON THE ANALYSIS OF WATER.

**W**ATER has always been considered as a simple element, incapable of being destroyed by art. But in this age of philosophical wonders we have seen this proposition demonstrated to be false. Earth and air, which used to be reckoned elements, are now also proved by the experiments of *PRIESTLEY* to be compound substances, and have actually been decomposed by that great philosopher. It is to the same ingenious and indefatigable

experimenter that we owe the discovery of the Analysis of WATER.

Our readers may remember that in the course of the last summer it was mentioned in several of our periodical publications, that Dr. *Priestley* had found out a method of converting water into air. This he did by combining it with quick lime, and then distilling it; the air that came over was respirable, and capable of maintaining combustion. This experiment he prosecuted, and varied



varied in several ways, and the fact was generally admitted, that water was absolutely convertible into air. It was indeed so far admitted that (as is often the case, for even philosophers are pillagers) others laid claim to the discovery, and in particular an itinerant though ingenious lecturer, who from perfect blindness was incapable of making experiments, or observing their results. By varying the mode of the experiment, however, something occurred which threw a doubt on the reality of the fact, and occasioned it to be generally disbelieved. The enquiry, however, has been successfully resumed by Mr. Lavoisier, who also pretends to the prior right of discovery (probably with as much reason as the gentleman above alluded to) and he has not only decomposed, but recomposed water from its constituent principles. These principles, it seems, are diphlogisticated and inflammable airs. By mixing these together under a glass ball plunged in quicksilver, he found that the inner surface of the ball soon began to be obscured, and drops of water were at length seen trickling down its sides to the surface of the mercury. The water procured by this process was nearly

equal to the weight of the two airs united, and as pure as distilled water.

It had been observed before, that by firing inflammable with diphlogisticated air, the whole of them disappeared, and nothing but water was found in the vessel. But philosophers could not then bring themselves to believe that the water was the product of these two species of air. The above simple and elegant experiment, however, seems to put it beyond a doubt.

Mr. Lavoisier applies this discovery to the explanation of many phenomena in the decomposition of bodies, vegetation, fermentation, &c. but it is sufficient for our present purpose to have published the discovery itself, especially as we have reason to think that the ingenious academician in some of his applications of this discovery is wrong.

We shall conclude this account with recommending the following facts to the consideration of philosophers:

It has lately been shewn that *fixed air* is also composed of diphlogisticated and inflammable airs, and the like is said to be the case with phlogisticated air. If this be true, what is it that occasions the difference between these substances?

E.

## M E D I C I N E.

## FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

A PLAN OF A GENERAL INOCULATING DISPENSARY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POOR, WITHOUT REMOVING THEM FROM THEIR OWN HABITATIONS.

COMMUNICATED BY A CORRESPONDENT.

OF the numerous diseases to which mankind is liable, one of the most universal, loathsome, and dangerous, is the *Small-Pox*. Many of the other causes which tend to the diminution of the human species, when compared to this, seem to be trivial. Within the last sixty years, as appears from the London bills of mortality, not above 3500 have died of lunacy, 13,000 in child-bed, and not more than 6400 have been drowned, &c. &c. But it is a melancholy fact, that within the same period of time, more than *one hundred and twenty thousand* have been

swept away in this city by the *small-pox alone*. How wounding to humanity is the reflection, that of this last mentioned number, *one hundred thousand* at least might have been saved by *inoculation*.

To prove by a detail of facts the safety and advantages of inoculation, would, at this period of time, in this country, and in an address of this nature, be superfluous. Of its utility to individuals no one entertains a doubt. Of its utility and safety, likewise, to recommend it as a general and universal practice in great cities, there can

O

now

LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.

now no longer be a question or dispute.

It is a truth generally admitted, that the *Small-Pox* proves fatal to *one in seven* of those who receive it in the *natural* way; whilst, on the contrary, not *one in five hundred* falls a victim to it, when received by *inoculation*.

But the value of this practice does not consist merely in its diminishing the mortality of the *Small-Pox* alone, and in rendering it milder and less loathsome; but also in its proportionably preventing the numerous fatal diseases, the deformities, and the loss of eyesight, which are frequently the consequences of the natural disease.

The security, which in these respects *inoculation* affords, has been a considerable time experienced by the rich, and by those of middling circumstances. But the indigent, who form a very large and useful part of the community, restrained by their penury, and by not having their attention sufficiently roused and alarmed, so as to guard their families in time against the ravages of this voracious foe, have not hitherto, except in an extremely inconsiderable degree, participated of so great a blessing.

An hospital has indeed been established, from the most benevolent motives, for inoculating the poor of London; but on a scale totally disproportionate to the magnitude of such an object. The number of patients admitted into this receptacle, supposing it to have been constantly filled, has been infinitely too small, when compared to the number of objects for whose benefit it was instituted, to have any perceptible effect in diminishing the mortality of the *Small-Pox*. The experience of many years proves to demonstration its inefficacy, and the reasons are obvious. Children under *seven years of age* cannot, according to the regulations of this hospital, be admitted, though it is a well known fact, that far the greatest part of those born in London are seized with the *Small-Pox* before they arrive at that period of life.

Besides, if hospitals could be established, sufficient for the reception of *all* the poor in London liable to the

above disease, the eligibility of the scheme, for a variety of reasons not necessary to be here enumerated, would be highly exceptionable. The expences attending it would be such as few are aware of; they would be enormous. Again, the lower and laborious orders of people, though distressed by poverty, are no strangers to the tender feelings of humanity and parental affection; they might wish their infant offspring to receive the benefit of inoculation at home, and yet shudder at the thoughts of committing them to a crowded hospital, and to the care of an hospital nurse. Some more advanced in years (very few of whom would be *natives* of London) might desire the same benefit for themselves, but the necessary separation, during three weeks or a month, from their families, services, or domestic avocations, would deter them from embracing it.

In the hopes of rendering inoculation early and general amongst the poor, who certainly have an equal claim with the rich to its benefits, at *their own habitations*, and at the same time of stimulating those of the high and middle ranks, who might neglect the same preventive to secure their families, this institution is begun. Confident are the institutors, that if this great end be accomplished, as certainly it may, in respect to the poor and laborious orders, at a very trifling expence, a very few hundred pounds, *inoculation* alone will in time be the means of preserving, perhaps, an equal number of the human species, as *all* the other noble endowments, for sickness and disease, of this beneficent city united.

The following proposition will prove, to arithmetical demonstration, the vast importance of the present institution. If London is supposed to contain half a million of inhabitants within the bills of mortality (it is here only meant to settle gross proportions) and if two thousand of these, at a medium, die *annually* of the *small-pox*, then, following the same proportion throughout *nine millions* in Britain and Ireland, *thirty thousand* is the *annual* havoc by this single disease; and extending



tending the same calculation to 120 millions, the utmost computation of all the inhabitants in Europe, *four hundred thousand* are annually destroyed by this direful pest. On the other side, view, on this large scale, the advantages of *Inoculation*. The numbers who, on an average, annually undergo the small-pox in London, in all probability, exceed *twenty thousand*; (and the numbers whom it never attacks are very few and inconsiderable) if these *twenty thousand*, were all inoculated, and one of five hundred die, as in the usual proportion, the annual loss to the metropolis would be *forty*; and if all the annual progeny of Britain and Ireland, taking them, according to Davenant, at *three hundred thousand*, were, *communibus annis*, to be inoculated, the national loss of both islands would be only *six hundred*, and of all Europe ten thousand annually.

No kingdom of Europe has yet adopted any general, systematic, and effectual plan to shield themselves from this inveterate enemy. Dr. Jurin's list of all the inoculated in London, and all other parts of England, from 1721 (the first year in which public experiment was made of this practice in Britain) to the year 1727, amount to 764 only, and afterwards it continued many years on the decline. It was suffered to be introduced into Holland in 1748; into France not before 1754; and during the *five* following years, a list of no more than 200 inoculated can be collected from all parts of that populous kingdom. Italy, Denmark, and Sweden, near the last-mentioned period, for the first time, tolerated experiments to be made of inoculation, and during *nine* years after its introduction, the inconsiderable number of 1200 were inoculated throughout Sweden.

These few facts are adduced to show, that the practice of inoculation is yet in its infancy throughout the most enlightened kingdoms of Europe; and that it is so even at this day in the British metropolis, the bills of mortality are a doleful proof.

Every life saved by inoculation is so much strength and treasure added to the nation. There is no other disease where we have it so much in our power

to lessen mortality, as in the small-pox. To the benevolent exhortations and exertions of the institutors, the legislature, the clergy, and enlightened individuals of every profession in this metropolis and nation, are intreated to add their sanction, patronage, and assistance. The example of London, in this instance, will have great influence on every other metropolis.

Before conclusion it is proper to observe, that within the last twenty years, or less, two attempts have been made to render inoculation general in London. Both these humane plans, however, were unsuccessful, and principally from the ill-founded opposition and apprehensions excited by some private inoculators.

All the original objections urged against inoculation at its first introduction had been refuted and given up: such as the return of the disease a second time; the communication of other contagious and infectious diseases, and many other equally erroneous aspersions. The only objection, which, until lately, remained disputed and undecided, in substance was, "*Whether by general inoculation in great cities dispersing the infection, more injury than benefit would be done to the community.*" Upon the final determination of this interesting proposition, the fate of inoculation rested. Policy and humanity would certainly dictate the total suppression of a practice, upon the whole, more detrimental than beneficial to society.

Baron Dimsdale, several writers on the continent, De Haen, Tissot, Raest, &c. &c. had in printed treatises reprobated general inoculation in great cities. Baron Dimsdale insisted, that all the *laborious and middling classes* of the London inhabitants should be shut up during inoculation in hospitals, but, strange inconsistency, he tolerated the rich and affluent to enjoy its benefits at their own houses. In opposition to this doctrine, pamphlets were written by several physicians of this metropolis, in defence of general inoculation in London at private houses. They were replied to, and with acrimony, by the Baron, who continued to exult over all his opponents, and to imagine his

his arguments unanswerable. About three years ago a small miscellaneous treatise, called *Observations medical and political*, was published by Dr. Black; the first part of which was dedicated to the refutation of Baron Dimisdale's publications, and arguments against general inoculation in London, at the private houses of all the inhabitants, indiscriminately. That treatise was not two months from the press, when the Baron hastily published a new edition of his works on the same subject, which he dedicated to the Empress of Russia; in which he erased all his former arguments against general inoculation in London, and, manifestly in consequence of the above publication, renounced and corrected this, with many other errors (truth and duty reluctantly oblige us to declare) of enormous injury to the public security.

The last consideration is, the probable expences of this institution. These would be inconceivably small. *Three* medical gentlemen will, *at all times*, be amply sufficient; and for the convenience of the patients, and of themselves, one residing in Westminster, one in the city of London, and one in the Borough. *One* small house in the central part of the metropolis would be sufficient, to which patients should resort merely for inoculation, and their friends afterwards for medicines. As to the *medicines*, very few, and those not costly, would be required to infants. At the first cost, they would not, in all probability, ever exceed one hundred pounds annually. Supposing, likewise, that one hundred pounds annually was assigned to each

of the three medical gentlemen, the total *annual* expence of the General Inoculating Dispensary would not exceed *five hundred pounds*: a sum which several of our great hospitals swallow up in little more than a week. Perhaps also it would be adviseable, at the first outset, to offer a small pecuniary encouragement to some of the poor, to induce them to secure their families by timely inoculation. But, to establish this institution, the influence and exhortations of enlightened individuals amongst their indigent neighbours will be more required than the supply of their purses. The medical gentlemen will with the utmost pleasure give their time, advice, and attendance, *gratis*, until the charity shall be sufficiently rich. A house-rent might also at first be dispensed with, during the infant state of the charity, and to the private houses of each of the three medical gentlemen the patients may be directed to be inoculated. A druggist, or apothecary, in each of the *three* districts above-mentioned can easily be engaged to prepare the prescriptions, for a very small profit upon his labour.

Each subscriber of one guinea in the year will be a governor during that period, and of ten guineas, a governor for life; and each may annually recommend *ten* patients to be inoculated.

Those noblemen, ladies, and gentlemen, whose patriotism and humanity dispose them to patronise and encourage this institution, are respectfully intreated to address their *names* and intention to *Dr. Black*, in the Haymarket, who will acquaint them with further particulars of this plan.

## NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

S I R,

**T**HE theory of earthquakes has engaged the attention of the philosophical world ever since the free spirit of enquiry has encouraged the true method of examining into natural appearances. Dr. Stukely's celebrated theory, which is built on the supposed agency of electricity, and has been confirmed by several experiments of the great Dr. Priestley, is well known to the world. The recent devastation in the province of Calabria has revived that attention which these grand operations of nature cannot but command. Sir William Hamilton, with great



great probability ascribes this last dreadful occurrence to the explosion of a subterraneous volcano. The following extract from a work\* lately published by Monf. de Dolomieu, correspondent to the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, will shew that, among other concurrent causes, the apparently gentle decomposition of substances that contain air is capable of producing effects, not much inferior to those that owe their origin to the force of fire.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c.

N.

### AN ACCOUNT OF A NEW SPECIES OF VOLCANO.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE PHENOMENA WHICH APPEAR AT THE MOUNTAIN OF MACCALUBA, IN SICILY.

**I**F the name of Volcano had not been appropriated exclusively to mountains that emit fire; if it had not been always employed to announce the great effects produced by this terrible element, or if it were applicable to every mountain which is formed of the matter of its own proper explosions, I should not scruple to apply the term to a singular phenomenon I observed in Sicily, between Arragona and Girgenti. I should say that I have seen an aerial volcano, whose effects resemble those in which fire is the principal agent. I should observe that this volcano, like others, has its intermissions of repose and calmness, and its periods of turbulence and fermentation; that it produces earthquakes, subterraneous thunders, violent shocks, and, lastly, explosions that throw the projected matter to the height of more than three hundred feet. But whatever name it may be consistent with propriety to apply to this phenomenon, it will be neither less singular nor less interesting on that account.

On the 18th of September, 1781, going from Arragona to Girgenti, I went out of the direct road, to observe a place called Maccaluba, which was pointed out to me as very singular, by a variety of relations that had very much excited my curiosity. The soil of the country I traversed is essentially calcareous. It is overspread with mountains and hills of clay, in which the currents of water have made deep fissures, and some of which are lined with a gypseous crust. After an hour's walk I arrived at the place of destination. I beheld a mountain of clay, flat at the top. The base exhibited nothing remarkable; but on the plain that terminates its height, I observed the

most singular phenomenon that nature has ever yet presented to my view.

The base of this mountain being circular, it imperfectly represents a truncated cone. Its elevation above the valley in which it is situated, and almost enclosed, is one hundred and fifty feet; and the plain at top is in a small degree convex, and about half a mile in circumference. This plain is so extremely sterile, that the slightest trace of vegetation cannot be observed. Every where on the summit is seen a very great number of truncated cones, at various distances from each other, and of various heights. The highest may measure about two feet and a half, and the smallest are not more than two or three lines. At the summit of every one is a crater, in the form of a funnel, the depth of which is about one third of the height of the cone it belongs to. The soil they rest on is a grey clay, dry and cracked in every direction, the pieces being about four or five inches in thickness. The great libration that is felt by walking on this plain shews that the surface consists of a thin crust, which covers a soft and half fluid substance. And it is not without trepidation that an observer perceives that this dried clay covers an immense gulf of mud, in which he runs the greatest risque of being swallowed up.

The interior part of each small crater is always moist, and exhibits a continual motion. Every moment a mass of moistened clay, of a grey colour, is elevated from the lower part of the crater. This mass is of a convex figure, and rises till it has entirely filled the whole cavity, and surmounts it in the form of an hemisphere, which bursts, and lets a quantity of air escape, that

caused

\* Voyage aux Îles de Lipari.

caused the whole effect. The bursting is attended with a noise resembling that produced by drawing a cork out of a bottle, at the same time that the clay is thrown out of the crater, and runs down the sides of the cone like a lava, extending beyond its base to a greater or less distance, according to its quantity. As soon as the air is thus disengaged, the rest of the clay that was not thrown out falls down into the crater, which then resumes its first form, and preserves it till a new bubble endeavours to escape. In this manner there is produced a continual motion of depression and elevation more or less frequent; and the frequency is increased by stamping upon the crust of clay with which the summit of the mountain is covered.

If a stick be thrust into one of these craters it returns by little and little by starts, but it is not thrown to a distance, as I had been taught to expect. During the time I was employed in observing the phenomena of this mountain, three of my attendants amused themselves by throwing pieces of the dried clay into the mouth of one of the largest craters. The pieces were all swallowed up, and an hour employed in this kind of work produced no other effect than that of dilating the orifice a little, without filling it up. Some of these hillocks are entirely dry, and give no longer passage to the air. The whole number of cones exceeds an hundred, but this number varies every day. Besides the cones, there are several round cavities in the soil itself, especially towards the west, where the plain is less elevated than elsewhere. These cavities are an inch or two in diameter, and are filled with dirty salt water, out of which bubbles are continually emitted without noise or explosion, but similar to the boiling of water upon the fire. On the surface of some of these concavities I found a pellicle of bituminous oil, of a sufficiently strong odour, of that kind which is often confounded with the smell of sulphur.

Such is the state of this mountain during the summer and autumn till the rainy season arrives, and this is the state

in which I saw it. But the circumstances during the winter are very different. The clay on its summit then becomes soft and almost fluid by the rain, the conical hillocks are dissolved, and nothing presents itself to the sight but a vast gulph of argillaceous mud, of which the depth is unknown, and which cannot be approached but with the greatest danger. An unceasing ebullition prevails over all this surface. The air that produces it has no longer any particular passages, but bursts forth alike in all parts.

These two states obtain only when the mountain is calm. It has likewise its time of grand fermentation, in which it presents phenomena that spread terror and affright into all the neighbouring places, and that resemble those which precede the eruptions of ordinary volcanos. Shocks of earthquakes, often very violent, are felt to the distance of two or three miles. Subterraneous thunders and noises are heard, and after several days progressive increase in the interior fermentation, they are succeeded by violent eruptions, attended with much noise, that throw the soil, together with mud, clay, and some stones, to the perpendicular height of more than two hundred feet. All these matters fall again upon the same spot from which they were projected. The explosions are usually repeated three or four times during the twenty-four hours. They are accompanied by a fetid smell of liver of sulphur, which spreads itself over the adjacent parts, and sometimes it is affirmed there is an appearance of smoke. After these eruptions the preliminary phenomena cease, and the mountain again resumes one of the two states before described.

The eruptions of this remarkable and singular volcano happen in autumn, when the summer has been long and dry, but the interval is not regular. Many years sometimes elapse without one; and afterwards they take place in two successive years, or two years out of three, as in 1777 and 1779, which are the times of the last eruptions. The regular interval of five years,



years, concerning which different authors have spoken, is contrary to observation.

Here follows an account of the eruption of 1777, given me by an eye-witness, who wrote it at the time of the event\*. I leave it in its original language, adding at the same time a literal translation:

“ At the distance of one league from the sea-coast, behind Girgenti, is a place named Moruca by the ancients, and now Maccaluba, where on an eminence in the middle of a barren plain are observed several different apertures, which by a gentle ebullition throw out mud and troubled water. On the 13th of September last (1777) half an hour after sun-rise, a noise was heard at this place, that every moment increasing became in a short time louder than the loudest thunder. This was succeeded by a trembling of the earth in the neighbourhood, where large apertures are still to be seen, at the same time that the principal mouth by which troubled water and mud commonly issue forth became enlarged in diameter to six palms†. Out of this mouth there arose or was emitted something that resembled a cloud of smoke, and which in a very few seconds arrived to the height of twenty-four palms. Although the matter of this explosion had the colour of flame in some of its parts, it contained nevertheless liquid mud, and lumps of clay, which in falling spread themselves over the circumambient soil: the greater part, however, fell again into the great mouth from which they had been disgorged. This eruption lasted half an hour, and was repeated three other times, with the intermission of a quarter of an hour, and the duration of a quarter of an hour. In the mean time, the motion and agitation of large masses under the earth were heard; at the distance of three miles the noise resembled that of the sea in a storm. While these terrible phenomena lasted, those who were present thought the end of the world was come, and were terrified by the apprehension of being buried under the

clay that was thrown out of the principal mouth. This mud covered all the neighbouring soil, to the depth of six palms, besides filling up the adjacent vallies, and though this clay was liquid on the day of the eruption, it appeared on the following day to have recovered its consistence, so that several curious persons were able to approach the great mouth in the middle, for the purpose of observing it. This mud still retains the smell of sulphur, though not so strongly as on the day of the eruption. The other mouths, which were shut during the eruption, have appeared again, and we still hear a subterraneous murmur, that makes us apprehensive of another eruption.”

We are always tempted to attribute effects nearly similar to the same cause. It is seen that this mountain has eruptions like Mount Etna, and this has been sufficient to induce the inhabitants of its environs, and the few travellers who have observed it, to suppose that all the phenomena depend on subterraneous fires. I arrived on the spot, pre-occupied with the same idea. I expected nothing more than to see an ordinary volcano, either in the commencement or termination. I did not suspect that there was any other agent in nature except fire capable of producing the phenomena that had been announced to me; but I was quickly undeceived. I saw nothing around me that indicated the presence of the igneous element, which when in action impresses a distinctive character on all its productions; and I was soon convinced that nature employs very different means to produce effects that resemble each other. I saw that fire was not the principal agent, nor even concerned in the phenomena of this mountain, and if in some eruptions smoke and heat were observed, that these circumstances are no more than casual or accessory, and do not point out the true cause of the explosions. But previous to a development of the nature of this new agent, it will be necessary to give a detail of some circumstances which I may have neglected, in describing the

\* It is presumed to be unnecessary to annex the Italian in this place, as Mr. D. has done in his work. † The Naples palm is above 9  $\frac{1}{2}$  English inches.

more obvious appearances relating to this singular phenomenon.

My first endeavour, on my arrival on the plain of Maccaluba, was to ascertain whether any heat existed in the ebullitions I saw about me. It was not without apprehension that I walked on this tremulous plain. It appeared dangerous to me to approach too near the larger cones, about which the ground was more worn than elsewhere, and might yield and suffer me to sink. However, encouraged by repeated trials, I advanced to the very center of the plain. I thrust my hand into the fluid mud of the craters, and into the cavities that contained water in a state of ebullition, but instead of the sensation of heat I expected, I experienced that of cold. I then plunged my thermometer, which in the open air stood at twenty-three degrees and a half, and it descended three degrees. I thrust my naked arm as deep as I could into the mud of one of the craters, and I experienced a sensation of still greater cold than at the surface. No smell of sulphur nor smoke could be perceived, and, in short, I could by no possible means discover any vestige of fire in the state the mountain was then in. This fact being well established, it was necessary to examine whether the igneous element either assisted or acted as chief agent in the great eruptions. I already began to doubt. I examined every part of this plain, and all the exterior parts of the mountain, without discovering any substance upon which the fire had acted. On the contrary, I found evident tokens to prove that this destructive agent had not existed. Among the ejected matter of the last eruption I saw fat clays, that contained calcareous spar not at all altered, calcareous stones absolutely untouched, together with regular crystals of spar, and fragments of laminated selenite, or gypsum specular. These matters, that is to say, the spar and crystallized gypsum, are altered by the most gentle fire, and the grey clay by the action of heat is baked into a red tile or brick. Since these substances carry no marks of fire, they cannot have been subjected to its action, and consequent-

ly it has not existed in this singular phenomenon. As soon as my observations had convinced me this mountain was not an ordinary volcano, I readily saw the cause of all the phenomena. A bottle being filled with the air which escaped from the mud and the water, instantly extinguished a taper plunged into it. This air mixed with atmospheric air produced neither flame nor explosion. I had no opportunity of making other experiments, but these were sufficient to show that it was fixed air that is the only agent in the phenomena I have described. And it seems to me that the following explanation gives the true solution of this problem, which at first appeared rather embarrassing.

I have already taken notice, that the soil of all the country is calcareous. It is covered with mountains of a grey and ductile clay, that often contains gypsum; and accident has placed a spring of salt water in the middle of that called Maccaluba, great numbers of which are every where in this country abounding with mines of rock salt. This water continually moistens the clay, and afterwards exudes through one of the sides of the mountain. The vitriolic acid of the clay seizes by its greater affinity the base of the marine salt, and disengages the marine acid, which acts on the calcareous earth beneath the mountain. This last combination disengages a vast quantity of fixed air, that traverses the whole mass of moist clay, and bursts out through the surface. The vitriolic acid of the clay may likewise combine directly with the calcareous stone, and continually form gypsum. The constant motion of fixed air through the clay produces an effect similar to that which would arise from kneading, that is, it augments its ductility and tenacity. During the winter, or rainy season, the clay is more moistened, the air disengages itself more easily, and the ebullitions are more multiplied. During the summer, the surface of the clay becomes dry, and forms a crust more or less thick. The air then must make an effort to escape, and issues forth at the place where the resistance is least.



It heaps together by little and little the portions of earth it brings along with it, and forms small cones, in the middle of which it preserves a passage. But when the summers have been long, hot, and dry, the clay increases in tenacity and compactness. It is no longer permeable to the air, but resists the effort of its elasticity. The air accumulates continually, and at a certain point of compression produces earthquakes, subterraneous thunders, and, lastly, the eruptions, concerning which I have spoken: and the greater the resistance, the more considerable the explosion. Thus it appears that fixed air is the only agent in all the phenomena of this mountain.

The smoke that accompanies the eruptions is not a circumstance contrary to the explanation I have here given. Smoke or mist is often nothing more than water reduced into vapours, and it is not extraordinary that the air in dilating itself, and producing the explosions I attribute to it, should reduce into vapour the water that is beneath the mountain.

The appearance of flame mentioned by the author of the relation may likewise be produced by the reflection of the rising sun from the surface of the wet clay, which seen through the mist may produce a red colour. The observer himself informed me that he was placed so as to have the sun directly before him.

It is besides possible that the mass of bituminous matter which is beneath this mountain, as is indicated by the petroleum that swims on the surface of the water in the cavities may produce inflammable air during the time of the interior fermentation; this air may take fire, either spontaneously or by the collision of the matter thrown out during the time it mixes with the atmosphere. Its inflammation in the cavities of the mountain is not possible for want of the concurrence of pure air; and pure air cannot be formed by the combination of the acid with the calcareous earth that produces the fixed air which, in the usual state of the mountain, is always making its escape at the surface.

#### CONJECTURES ON THE CAUSES OF THE FOGS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD, 1783.

FOR these conjectures we are obliged to Giovanni Lapi, who is *Direttore del Giardino de Georgofili*, at Firenze. He supposes that the late fogs were caused by emanations from the earth. His reasons are ingenious.

“Messina, he informs us, was covered with a fog during the earthquake, so was China when Formosa was swallowed up by the sea; so were the northern seas, when a new volcano appeared in Iceland; and so has almost all Europe been now, when volcanoes have appeared in many places. It is the volcanoes, therefore, which have impregnated the air with large quantities of fixed, phlogisticated, and inflammable air, and this accounts for the extraordinary vegetation, which has been universal except only in a few places, where these materials, so favourable to it in general, have been in too great abundance.

LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.

“With regard to the electricity which has abounded so much in the air, Mr. L. reasons in this manner: every body knows that electricity may be produced by *rubbing* glassy or bituminous substances very hard and quickly. Now, as the crust of our globe abounds in both these, it is certain that the frequent earthquakes must have *rubbed* them a great deal; and as the points or summits of bodies are the most likely to attract electricity, the tops of the mountains must of course have had a great deal. Accordingly these were first covered with electric fogs, which afterwards, when the equilibrium was restored, were seen in other parts of the earth.

“Again, all volcanoes abound very much in crystals of *schorl*, which have been observed to partake of the nature of the tourmaline, that is, to become electrical by bare heat. This explains why

why there are always so many electrical sparks seen in eruptions of volcanoes, and in earthquakes, which last are probably caused by the action of volcanoes very deep under ground.

"But electricity, when not *decomposed*, acts as a powerful stimulus upon vegetation; and again, electricity, when *decomposed*, resolves itself into phlogiston, which is one of the most powerful agents in vegetation known.

The vegetation, therefore, ought for all these reasons to have been exceeding great, and it has been so, both in the general return made by the earth, and in particular instances of fertility. Wine, corn, and oil have abounded beyond what has been ever seen; four onions have been weighed of 36 pounds each, a single bean has produced 700 pods, &c. &c."

## THE MISCELLANY.

### FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

#### ANALYSIS OF THE CHARACTER OF NESTOR IN THE ILIAD OF HOMER.

SHAKSPEARE has delineated his characters from real life; and such has been the fertility of his genius, that he has described almost all the features of the human heart, in almost every possible situation. An elegant writer\* has, with much felicity, traced some of the principal characters of that great author through their various shades; and has presented us with the most important observations upon human nature, under a form, which, by its novelty and elegance, is excellently calculated to convey moral instruction.

It appears to me, that if there be any other poet who has delineated characters with such a masterly pencil as to deserve a particular analysis of the same kind, it is the great father of poetry, the immortal Homer. There are, indeed, many particulars which might be pointed out, in which our great dramatic writer bears a very striking resemblance to Homer†; but in no respect is this resemblance so remarkable as in the unequalled talent which both possess, in delineating characters. The dramatic form of the Iliad is one of the principal sources of that delight which every reader feels in perusing it. The heroes of the Trojan war have characters, which are accurately marked, and maintained throughout, according to the nicest rules of dramatic unity. In the characters of Achilles, Diomed,

and Ajax, which an ordinary poet would have represented under the common aspect of courage, we find delineated the different shades of valour, as they may be varied by unyielding obstinacy, by cool reflection, or noble generosity. In the characters of Ulysses and Nestor, we are presented with the same common quality of wisdom, arising in the one from native force of mind; and in the other, from the collected experience of age.

In short, the Iliad appears to me to furnish ample room for the analysis of human character, as delineated by the greatest of poets, under a variety of aspects: and there seems to be nothing wanting but the elegant pen of the author of "the Analysis of Shakspeare's Characters," to derive from the Iliad an interesting detail of observations, of the highest importance with regard to human conduct.

I have sometimes amused myself with imitating the manner of that writer; and it is not without a deep sense of my inability to tread in the same path with advantage, that I now beg leave to offer a few remarks on the character of Nestor, which has frequently interested me in perusing the Iliad.

Instead, however, of attempting to delineate every particular feature, I shall at present confine myself to a single trait, which appears to me to be a

Leading

\* Professor Richardson, of Glasgow, in his "Analysis of some of the most remarkable characters of Shakspeare." † Of this similitude Dr. Johnson speaks in his preface to Shakspeare. Ed.



leading one in the character of Nestor.

This venerable hero had now arrived at a very advanced period of life. He had already seen three generations of men; and the race of those with whom he had begun the career of life had been long extinct. In his youth, he had distinguished himself by his warlike achievements; and he was now as illustrious on account of his wisdom, as he had formerly been on account of his valour. The other heroes with whom he was now engaged in the Trojan war were young men. Nestor had been the companion of their fathers; and it was in their society that he had performed those exploits, from which he now claimed the chief distinction. But the infirmities of old age had already invaded him; and he was no longer able to contend with the younger chiefs in the glory of the field. Conscious, however, of his own merit, and impressed with the memory of those achievements which he had performed in his youth, he perpetually recurs with tender emotions of regret to the days and scenes of former times; he dwells with complacency on the actions of his earlier years; and attributes to the occurrences and characters with which he had been then familiar a dignity and importance which he can now perceive in nothing around him. He looks down with a kind of contempt on the persons with whom he now associates, when he compares them with the companions of his youth: he perceives a littleness in every thing, which he is always disposed to contrast with that grandeur which he ascribes to the objects and personages with which he had been familiar in early life:

Ἦδη γὰρ ποτ' ἔγω κ' ἀρείοισι νεπερ ἐμῖν,  
&c. *Iliad* I. v. 260.

"A god-like race of heroes once I knew,  
Such as no more these aged eyes shall view.  
Lives there a chief to match Pirithous' fame,  
Dryas the bold, or Ceneus' deathless name;  
Theseus endued with more than mortal might,  
Or Polyphemus, like the gods in fight?  
With these of old, to toils of battle bred,  
In early youth, my hardy days I led." POPE.

The contrast between the periods of

youth and old age is ever obtruding itself on the minds of those who are advanced in life; and such reflections as those which Nestor here indulges unavoidably flow from such a contrast. It will be easily allowed that a great portion of human enjoyment is derived from the sensibility of the heart to impressions from the objects and characters around us: and if we trace the progress of this sensibility in the different periods of human life, we shall easily discover how the contrast between youth and old age must turn out unfavourably to the latter.

The young mind, yet a stranger to the scenes and objects with which the new world, on which it has so lately entered, is stored, sees every thing at first under the magnified aspect of novelty. But whatever is new surprises; and whatever surprises makes a deep impression on the mind; it rouses it into emotion, and communicates a spring to all its powers. By degrees, however, this gloss of novelty wears off. The objects and characters which present themselves to us become familiar; and as they become familiar, the impression which they make on the mind becomes slighter. As they are rendered common by the habit of frequent observation, their dimensions are contracted, and they appear to sink in point of dignity and worth. Such seems to be the process of the mind in judging of the qualities of objects, in the periods of youth, and of more advanced life.

But still, through every period of life, the traces remain of those early impressions which had roused the mind, and filled the imagination with the images of greatness. We can yet recall the judgements we had formed, when the glowing colours of fancy illuminated every object around us: we can yet recollect how certain events and characters were wont to fill the mind, and to strike the fancy with the idea of a magnificence that is now to be met with no longer.

Thus, led back by a thousand images of pleasing recollection, we perpetually recur to those early impressions by which we were once so deeply affected;

fect; nor is the present conviction that we have of the imperfection of characters, and the comparative littleness of events, sufficient to destroy the belief that it was otherwise when we were young.

The objects and characters which were familiar to us in early life derive also a portion of that greatness which we attribute to them from an obvious association with the scenes of the happiest period of our lives—that period when the heart was alive to every generous emotion; when pleasure offered the cup of enjoyment unmixed; and when hope smiled on the prospects of future life. This state of mind falls generally to the share of youth; and communicates to every surrounding object a portion of the same qualities by which it is itself characterised; and accordingly we find them heightened by the colours of joy, and love, and innocence, when contrasted with the occupations of maturer life, which are more generally associated with care, and sorrow, and remorse.

Thus then it is, that we attribute greatness and dignity, and value to the objects which have been familiar to us in our earlier years. But when the imagination is at length cooled, and when truth paints every thing in its just colours to the eye of judgement, they begin to appear under a different aspect. We contrast the impressions of youth with the convictions of more advanced life; and we are ready to exclaim with Nestor, “That we shall never more behold such men as those with whom we associated in our youth.”

But Nestor not only assigns a superior dignity and importance to the affairs of former times; but he is also naturally led to reflect on the deprivations which old age had now made on his own powers; and to deplore the loss of those enjoyments which belong only to early life. There prevails, in all his harangues, a strain of complaint, expressive of his dissatisfaction with his present condition.

Ἀτρεΐδης, μάλα μὲν κὲν ἐνὶ νηὶ θοῦλοισι καὶ αὐτός, &c. *Iliad* IV. 318.

and

—ὅ γὰρ ἐμὴν ἐς, \* &c.

*Iliad* XI. 667.

“Now, the slow course of all-impairing time  
Unstrings my nerves, and ends my manly prime;  
Oh! had I still that strength my youth possess’d,  
When this bold arm”——

POPE.

Such complaints as these are natural: there is something uncomfortable in extreme old age. Every enjoyment has now fled. The mind has lost that nice sensibility by which it was formerly led to take an interest in events and characters. The affections of the heart have become cold and languid. The air of novelty which struck the youthful imagination in every thing that presented itself is now vanished; and every object is marked by a dull and uninteresting sameness. Incapable of that lively emotion from which our chief pleasures are derived; abandoned by the companions of his earlier life, and left, as it were, alone in a country of strangers, the man of many years naturally deplores his condition; and regrets the enjoyments of his better days.

A writer of great humour and penetration † has drawn a picture of human nature labouring under the complicated infirmities of extreme old age, sufficient to remove every wish to have life protracted beyond a certain period. But his picture is horrible; and must disgust every reader of delicacy. In the plaintive regrets of Nestor, we have a representation of the infirmities to which old age is liable, which affords a more tolerable view of human nature; and they seem to be placed in a light sufficiently strong to overcome the unreasonable desire of life.

When we contemplate the inconveniences to which extreme old age is exposed, we must be led to admire the wisdom that appears in the distributions of Providence: and we must feel a sense of gratitude to the Supreme Disposer of all things; because he hath not condemned us to tread the scene of human life, after it has been divested of every grace that rendered it agreeable. Instead of repining at the shortness of human life, we will rejoice that

\* See also *Iliad* XXIII. v. 626.

† Swift, in his account of the Struldburgs, in *Gulliver*.



that after the circle of enjoyment has been exhausted, and every object has become insipid and uninteresting by its familiarity, we are to be released from a station so ill calculated to gratify our thirst for happiness.

This idea might even be pursued to a greater length; and it might be observed, that it appears to be the intention of the author of nature, to withdraw our minds from the objects of this world, by divesting them gradual-

ly of those colours by which they so powerfully attract the fancy: and thus, as we advance in life, to excite in us a desire of entering on another scene of existence, where our capacities of enjoyment may be renewed and enlarged, at the same time that objects are provided, adapted to their nature.

But lest I should fall into a strain too serious for the present occasion, I shall here conclude my observations on this subject.

M.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE. ON THEATRICAL CRITICISM.

*Respicere exemplar vitæ morumque jubebo*

*Doctum imitatore, et veras hinc ducere voces.*

HOR.

S I R,

I Am a downright fellow, and shall not waste time in a preface to my letter. I am pleased with your attention to theatrical subjects, and, therefore, shall favour you with my sentiments on dramatic criticism. I love the play-house, and am one of those plain folks that dine early enough to attend the rising of the curtain. I do not sit down to table at six, prolong the last course till eight or nine, and then perhaps crack my head with cracking a bottle, or rattling a dice-box, till eight or nine the next morning. I hope, therefore, since, with the bulk of my countrymen, I take an interest in these entertainments, that you will, occasionally in your miscellany, gratify us with some sound criticisms on the drama: sound criticisms, I say; no flimsy panegyric, or gross abuse, praising or reviling one writer or performer for the purpose of raising or debasing another; but tracing and enforcing the real principles of the drama; and if examples, for the sake of illustration must now and then be given, give them from the classic dead! for praise or censure of the living is commonly nauseous, commonly suspicious. The dead too (no offence to the present generation!) are our more intimate acquaintance.

I do not mean, however, to depreciate the talents of the living. No,

Sir, you will find that the main scope of this letter is to encourage contemporary merit, and to repress the petulance, and expose the futility, of common-place criticism. Writers, who endeavour to effect their purpose by methods merely mechanical, are justly denied the palm of genius. Ought critics then to comment by line and rule, and to decide by a receipt? If Criticism be the hand-maid of the Muse, she might surely catch something of her air and spirit, rather than rip up the cast clothes of her mistress, at once to steal the pattern, and find fault with the fashion. In a word, her labours should be directed to promote the arts, rather than to dishearten the professors; and though it must naturally fall out that more can see and read than those who write, and paint, &c. yet since they who hazard their observations in public, in some measure become artists themselves, they should take care to found those observations on the basis of candour, taste, and good sense. At present the press swarms with critics. A louse, say the naturalists, is a very lousy animal; and there is not a lousy author in town, especially a dramatic author, that has not fifty lousy critics on his back. These bloodsuckers have no doubt their use, and may serve to correct the too sanguine imagination of an author: but I beg leave to mention a few instances

stances, wherein I think they contribute to weaken and to impoverish genius.

The first canon of modern criticism (and indeed it has been a favourite topick ever since the flood) is the degeneracy of the present age. This is the grand era of dulness: genius, they cry, is extinct. Shakspeare, Jonson, and Fletcher; Wycherly, Congreve, and Vanbrugh, are no more!—True; and the present writers, such as they are, will hereafter at least have that claim to applause. They will be no more. But a good play, say the critics, is so scarce, so very scarce a commodity!—Granted. When was it otherwise? Allowing for a moment, that every old piece in Dodsley's collection is excellent, how few are such pieces to those which were then written and exhibited, whose wit and spirit has not been sufficient to keep them sweet and alive for the delight and entertainment of the present generation! From the days of Æschylus to yesterday, few writers have been equal to the execution of a good tragedy; to write a comedy is a serious matter; and even an excellent farce-monger (says Diderot) is no ordinary character. I have looked upon the stage for a long, long series of time, and without flattery to the present race of dramatists, I will venture to pronounce that the last five-and-twenty years, or thereabouts, have produced more plays likely to descend to posterity than the five-and-twenty immediately preceding. I do not mean to pay my court to any particular author; I have thrown the compliment among them, and let each of them take as much of it as he may think falls to his share.

To point out antique merit to the moderns, as an object of emulation, is wise and laudable; but to set it up, like the gallows, to terrify and gibbet poor culprits that venture on the high road of letters, is impolitic and ungenerous. Comparisons are commonly invidious, yet there are a kind of comparisons still more odious than those between the antients and moderns—I mean those drawn between moderns and moderns. Wits, as well as beauties,

are naturally fond of pulling caps, and mangling the reputations of each other. But shall the sober critic, who ought to keep down their vanity, and quell their arrogance, shall he, as it were *ex cathedra*, give a sanction to their squabbles, or throw additional weight into that scale which success and self-conceit have perhaps already made too heavy? Let every successful writer triumph in his turn, yet do not chain his fellow authors to the wheels of his chariot, but rather let it be the office of the critic, like the slave of the antients, to bid him remember that he is mortal.

But the most offensive weapon of modern criticism is some reigning word, with which every literary demagogue arms himself, and does dreadful execution. The two leading monosyllables of the House of Commons are not more powerful than such a word, be it what it may, while it remains formidable by being in fashion. I am old enough to remember when the word *low* was this scare-crow. *Genteel* comedy, and the *politest* literature, were in universal request; and every writer who attempted to be comic dreaded the imputation of buffoonery. If a piece had strong humour—O, Sir, its damned *low*! was its sentence of condemnation. At length, however, the word *Low* has been restored to favour, and the term *SENTIMENT* in its turn has fallen into disgrace. “To anatomize a character, and see what breeds about the heart,” had formerly its merit; but now this dissection of the human mind has lost its advocates and admirers: *Sentimental stuff* is the phrase; and he who dares to approve a scene, where the course of the story apparently leads the author to exhibit passion rather than humour, is condemned for an old-fashioned dunce and a coxcomb. Gross drolleries, or dull moralities, (*moralities* let me call them!) are equally reprehensible: but humour is not to be censured merely because it is *low*, nor *sentiment* to be banished when it seems to exhibit the workings of the heart. With the antient critics, *the manners* and *sentiments* held an equal rank in the drama;



drama; each alike excellent, while they were each alike *characteristic*.

After such a free censure of the modern coinage of cant terms in the critical vocabulary, if I might be allowed to give currency to a word, I would endeavour to renew one, that is as old as the creation—NATURE!—the sterling bullion of NATURE!—Let the critics cease to enquire whether the humour be *low*, or the piece *sentimental*; let them examine whether it be *natural*! But let the admirer and imitator of Nature also be on his guard, not to fall into insipidity, or to indulge the minute touches of a Dutch pencil. Let your outline be bold, though simple; and fill it as richly, and colour it as highly, as you please; always taking care to avoid *extravaganza*, and “to hold, as it were, the mirror up to Nature!” This is no curb upon the imagination. Caliban is as natural as Hamlet.

Composition and criticism are so nearly allied, that in making strictures upon one, I have been betrayed almost unawares into speaking of the other. Narrowness in each, *mannerisms* in writing and *mannerisms* in criticism, are equally my aversion. The wretched fellow, that could paint nothing but a rose, was not in my opinion more contemptible, than the cuckow, who can repeat nothing but *low* or *sentimental*. The wide field of *nature* gives scope for that *variety* which ever distinguishes an era of genius. Never was there a

period, wherein excellent authors flourished, but their several manners were as different as their faces; nay, a good author possesses a versatility of talent, not only keeping him above the servile imitation of others, but enabling him in great measure to vary from himself. Yet there is another vice of critics—which I forgot to mention before—I mean their perpetually recurring to every writer’s first production, and settling it as the standard of his genius, as if they dreaded his cultivating more than one spot of Parnassus. To compare a man with himself, disadvantageously too, is of all comparisons the most mortifying: but mortification is no more the main business of the critic, than torture should be the study of the surgeon, though some pain will of necessity follow both their operations.

To conclude, Sir, while I recommend the drama to your notice, I mean to warn you from falling into the vulgar errors of ordinary commentators. I hope you will take warning by their untimely fate. Should you adopt the gingling bells of panegyric, or wade through the mire of abuse in the beaten track of modern criticism, I wish that your remarks may perish as speedily as the lie of the day on which they appear. If you wish to live in your writings be temperate and just:

“Nothing extenuate,  
“Nor set down aught in malice.”

I am, Sir, your’s, &c.

DOWNRIGHT.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

#### EXPLANATION OF AN ANCIENT ENIGMATICAL INSCRIPTION.

*Promittam capillum, incipiamque harelari.*

PLAUTUS.

SIR,

**A**BOUT a mile from Bologna, on the side of a temple which joins to a nobleman’s villa, is the following inscription:

D. M.

ÆL: LÆLIA CRISPIS, NEC VIR, NEC MULIER, NEC ANDROGYNA:  
NEC PUELLA, NEC JUVENIS, NEC ANUS;  
NEC CASTA, NEC MERETRICIA\*, NEC PUDICA, SED OMNIA.  
SUBLATA, NEQUE FAME, NEQUE FERRO, NEQUE VENENO,  
SED OMNIBUS:

NEC

\* In the copy of Gevartius, it is *meretrix*, which I have ventured to change into the adjective *meretricia*, that it may correspond with *casta et pudica*.

NEC COELO, NEC AQUIS, NEC TERRIS, SED UBIQUE JACET.  
LUC. AGATHO PRISCIUS, NEC MARITUS, NEC AMATOR, NEC  
NECESSARIUS;

NEQUE MOERENS, NEQUE GAUDENS, NEQUE FLENS;  
HANC NEC MOLEM, NEC PYRAMIDEN, NEC SEPULCHRUM,  
SED OMNIA,  
SCIT ET NESCIT CUI POSUERIT.

Of this enigmatical inscription, as far as I remember, no explanation has been attempted for above a century in England. I now offer one, Mr. Editor, for your Magazine, which seems

to me a very proper repository for subjects of this nature. But, previous to any attempt at solving this riddle, I shall present you with the following translation:

TO THE MOST POWERFUL OF THE DEITIES\*.

Ælia Lælia Crispis, neither Man, nor Woman, nor Hermaphrodite:

Neither a Girl, nor Young, nor Old:

Neither chaste, nor meretricious, nor modest, but all:

Carried off neither by famine, nor by sword, nor by poison, but by all:

Lies neither in Heaven, nor in the Sea, nor on Earth, but every where.

Luc. Agatho Priscius, neither Husband, nor Lover, nor necessary Friend:

Neither sorrowful, nor joyful, nor weeping:

Knows and does not know for whom he has erected this,

Neither Pile, nor Pyramid, nor Sepulchre, but all.

To this enigma may be applied the words of Virgil,

*Cui non dictus Hylas?*

Who has not sung of Hylas?

The learned of almost every nation have exerted themselves in unravelling this intricate knot. First, Marius Michael Angelo, of Padua, pronounced it to signify *rain-water*. John Turrius, a lawyer at Bruges, supposed it to mean the *prima materia*. Richard White, an English lawyer, thought that either *Niobe*, or the *soul*, or an *idea*, was intended. Nicholas Barnard, a French physician, interpreted it to be the *chemical preparation of Mercury*.

These are the names of the principal disputants. Their opinions, and their elaborate explanations of this curious and antient enigma, have been collected into one volume. I shall not at present enter into an examination of their wild conjectures, which frequently refute themselves. Of the whole the reader may exclaim;

*Faciunt nœ intelligendo, ut nihil intelligant.*

I shall confine myself to the ingenious interpretation of the celebrated Caspar Gevartius, which he has inserted in the third book of his *Eleſta*. This ingenious author, whose work has long been scarce, is well known to the literary world; and exclusive of the reputation his performances acquired, his fame is mentioned with high praise by the great Bentley, in his preface to the dissertation on the Epistles of Phalaris. The commendation of this illustrious critic alone is sufficient to stamp reputation on any character.

This inscription is AN EPITAPH ON LOVE, of which the descriptive part is taken from the writings of the ancient philosophers, and principally from the following speech in the *Phædrus* of Alexis, a comic writer, which is preserved by Atheneüs, in his *Deipnosophistæ*.

Και μοι δοκεῖν ἀγροεῖν οἱ ἑωρῆφοι  
Τὸν ἔρωτα. κ. τ. λ. †

The

\* D. M. *Deo Maximo*. So I venture to explain these letters. They may signify, indeed, *Digna Memoria*, worthy of remembrance: *Divino Monitu*, by divine command; or *Dis Manibus*. Of this let the learned reader judge.

† These verses make part of a speech, which the curious reader may find in the *Excerpta* of Grotius, from the Tragic and Comic writers, page 591, and in the XIII. book of Atheneus, page 562. In the seventh line, the metre was redundant, a circumstance which escaped Gevartius. The correction was obvious, and has been supplied by Grotius. In the last line of the quotation in Gevartius, I should like ἀδάμας σῆς better than ἀδαμαντες, though in his Latin translation Grotius has *Duritia adamantis*. The passage need not, however, be altered.



The painters know not LOVE—and to say truth,  
Mankind exert their art in vain to trace  
The godlike image. LOVE's nor male, nor female:  
Nor deity, nor mortal. LOVE's nor fool,  
Nor yet a wit. But modell'd from them all,  
Beneath one shape, full many a form he bears.  
In LOVE combin'd we view the hero's courage;  
The woman's fears; the wise man's eloquence;  
The madman's folly! hard as adamant,  
With brute-like strength, ambitious as a God!

In a passage in Sophocles\*, there is also an elegant description of Venus, to the same purpose:

Ω παιδες υτοι Κυπρις, υ Κυπρις μονον,  
Αλλ' εστι παντων, κ. τ. λ.

Yet Venus is not Venus, youths, alone,  
For she partakes of every other name.  
She's Pluto now—now stern Necessity:  
Now raging Madness—now she's pure Desire:  
Now Grief; and equally in her we trace  
All that is serious, calm, or violent,  
While the soul pines away, which she inhabits.

Plato also somewhere calls LOVE,  
πολυ κεφαλου θηριον, a many headed mon-  
ster; which Horace has copied in his

*Bellua multorum capitum est vulgus.*

Plutarch also asserts that LOVE is an  
enigma δυσευρετον και δυσλυτον, difficult  
to be found out and to be solved.

When all these passages are considered,  
I think that the subject of this inscription  
can no longer be deemed enigmatical. I shall now explain the lines in  
order.

ÆLIA, LÆLIA, CRISPIS. These  
were three female names very common  
among the Romans, and seem to imply,  
that LOVE inhabited with Ælia, Lælia,  
and Crispis, quæ nomina meretriculis solent  
tribui. Ælia occurs in Martial,

*Si memini, fuerant tibi quatuor, ÆLIA, dentes  
Exspuit una duos tussis, et una duos, &c.†*

and LÆLIA also

*Quæ legis causa nupsit tibi LÆLIA, Quinte,  
Uxorem potes hanc dicere legitimam.*

Quinctus, since LAW has join'd you both for life,  
Lælia may well be call'd thy lawful wife.

Crispis is a patronymic from Crispus,  
like Persis, Icaris, and others. Curling  
locks, or the ευπλοκαμον καρπον, was  
assigned to LOVE, by the ancients. He  
is described with the *Crispitude capil-*  
LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.

\* See Stobæus. Florel. Ed. Grot. Tit. LXIII. p. 238, where these lines occur, with several others  
added to them. The drama of Sophocles is not named.

† Epigram XIX. Lib. I. Festus says, ÆLIA GENs appellatur, quæ ex multis gentibus cor-  
ficitur. The epigram on Lælia occurs in the V. Lib. Ep. LXXV. She is mentioned also Lib. X.  
58. Lib. XIII. 22.

‡ Those who wish to enter more minutely into this subject may consult Plato's SYMPOSION,  
or Dialogue on LOVE.

lorum, by the elegant Moschus, in his  
beautiful Idyllium, *De Amore Fugitivo*.  
At Rome, also, the effeminate beaux  
were called *Crispuli*, on account of their  
well-dressed hair, as may be learned  
from Martial, V. Epig. LXI. In  
Ausonius also appears the following  
epigram:

WRITTEN UNDER A PICTURE OF CRISPA.

THEY say my Crispa is deform'd:  
I've heard, but neither rail'd nor storm'd.  
I think her graceful, fair, and free—  
My own opinion's all to me.  
Seem beauteous still!—my suit approve!—  
As Jealousy's allied to Love,  
I'll clasp thee, boastful, in these arms,  
And bid the world disdain thy charms.

The author seems to have chosen the  
names of three of LOVE's favourite  
votaries, to dignify his inscription.  
So much for the names.

NEC VIR, NEC MULIER, NEC AN-  
DROGYNA, &c.—SED OMNIA.

NEITHER MAN, NOR WOMAN, NOR  
HERMAPHRODITE, &c.—BUT ALL.

The address to LOVE, as of both sexes,  
does not seem so much, on account of  
his possessing the hero's courage, and the  
woman's fears, as Alexis says, as be-  
cause he exerts his influence, and exer-  
cises dominion over both males and  
females. For this reason, a statue was  
erected at Cyprus, BARBATÆ VENERI,  
To the Bearded Venus, as Macrobius  
relates: "Her image at Cyprus was  
bearded, but dressed in a female gar-  
ment, of a manly stature, with a sceptre  
in her hand; and she was thought to be  
both male and female ‡." Plato,  
indeed, says, that these were three  
kinds of terrestrial Beings on earth, in  
the three first ages of mankind.

NEC PUELLA, NEC JUVENIS, NEC  
ANUS, &c.—SED OMNIA.

NEITHER GIRL, NOR YOUNG, NOR  
OLD, &c.—BUT ALL.

In Plato's Symposium, or Dialogue  
DE AMORE, Phædrus asserts that LOVE  
is the most ancient of the Gods, but  
Agatho pronounces him to be youngest  
of all the Deities. Phædrus says,  
"LOVE is a great Deity, admired by  
God and Man, on many accounts, and

Q principally

principally for his original. He obtains honour among the *most ancient* of the Deities, as we may find by our ignorance of his parents, who are mentioned neither by the poets, nor by any other writer."

The reply of Agatho is to the following purpose: The Gods are all happy, but Love is superlatively so, as well as the most beautiful; being the *youngest*. This is certain from his always shunning old age, and chusing youthful society. So far, indeed, is he from being more ancient than Saturn or Jupiter, he is younger than any of the other Deities, and is always YOUNG. For the rest of his speech, I must refer to the original, as I have only given the substance, and not translated the words of Plato literally.

Alexis also says, in a passage preserved by John Stobæus, in his *Florel*. Pag. 243. Ed. Grot.

Εἴτ' ὁ μέγιστος ἐστὶ τῶν θεῶν Ἔρως,  
καὶ τιμιώτατος γέ τῶν πάντων πολὺ.

Of all the gods, the greatest sure is LOVE,  
And the most honour'd of the heavenly powers!

NEC CASTA, NEC MERETRICIA,  
NEC PUDICA—SED OMNIA.

NEITHER CHASTE, NOR MERETRICIOUS,  
NOR MODEST—BUT ALL.

No reader can doubt of the propriety of assigning *chastity* and *immodesty* to LOVE. *E. w.*, as Ammonius and Phurnutus remark, signifies, *Amor impudicus*, and *Ερως*, *Pudicus amor et bonus*.

SUBLATA NEQUE FAME, NEQUE  
FERRO, NEQUE VENENO—SED OMNIBUS.

CARRIED OFF NEITHER BY FAMINE,  
NOR SWORD, NOR POISON, BUT ALL.

The author of the inscription refers to the various misfortunes of lovers, who have perished at different periods, by famine, by sword, by poison, or other violent deaths. He particularly appears to allude to these verses of Thales:

Ἐρῶτα πάντες ἀνθρώποι, εἰ δὲ μὴ, χρόνος.  
Ἐκ δέου, καὶ τ. λ.

By Famine Love's allay'd, or cur'd by Time!  
But should these fail to quench the powerful flame,  
One certain remedy is left—Go, hang thyself!

Ausonius, in his *Cupido Crucifixus*, has thus enumerated some of the most celebrated examples of unsuccessful love:

Here Procris took her melancholy stand,  
And press'd, though oft repuls'd, the bloody hand:

On high her blazing torch sad Hero bore,  
But, ah! Leander braves the deep no more!  
A prey to love, here Sappho breathes her sighs,  
Points to Leucate, and the wave defies.  
Nor in her bracelet Eriphyle's drest,  
Curst in her son, nor in her husband blest.

A little farther the poet says:

There Carrace reclines—and Thisbe there  
Shews the drawn dagger, and her bosom bare.  
And there, with mournful, tho' dejected mien,  
With brandish'd steel, stalks Sidon's injur'd queen.

The first fell victim to a father's sword,  
The next an hapless lover's weapon gor'd;  
The third, lamented Dido, met her fate  
By LOVE's harsh sentence, and a stranger's hate.  
In crowds, beside these bleeding females stand,  
Their ills recounting, Cupid's chosen band:  
Some trust their sorrows to the parting gale,  
And some with tears repeat their piteous tale.

The learned reader may also find the histories of these and other unfortunate heroes and heroines, in the *Ερωτικά* of Plutarch and Parthenius: Virgil also, in his sixth *Eneid*, thus describes the inhabitants of the *Lugentes campi*:

Not far from thence, the mournful fields appear,  
So call'd from lovers that inhabit there.  
The souls, whom that unhappy flame invades,  
In secret solitude, and myrtle shades,  
Make endless moans, and, pining with desire,  
Lament too late their unextinguish'd fire.  
Here Procris, Eriphyle here, he found  
Baring her breast, yet bleeding with the wound  
Made by her son. He saw Paliphae there,  
With Phædra's ghost, a soul incestuous pair.  
There Laodamia, with Evadne moves:  
Unhappy both, but loyal in their loves.  
Ceneus, a woman once, and once a man;  
But ending in the sex she first began.  
Not far from these Phœnician Dido stood.

DRYDEN.

NEC COELO, NEC AQUIS, NEC TERRIS,  
SED UBIQUE, JACET.

LIES NEITHER IN HEAVEN, NOR  
IN THE SEA, NOR IN EARTH, BUT  
EVERY WHERE.

The power and influence of love pervade every element, and extend through the universe. The *earth*, the *heavens*, and the *seas* feel its control. How elegantly has Oppian described him, in the second book of his *Cynegetics*:



Ομηριμ' Ερως ποσος εσσι, ποση σεθεν  
απλεος αλκη;

Ποσσα νεοις; κ. τ. λ.

Resistless Love! how boundless is thy reign!  
What can thy actions check, thy will restrain!  
Yet wilt thou ever wanton in thy sway,  
And still, fantastic Queen, thy gambols play.  
The firm globe shakes beneath thy dread control,

And Ocean's foamy billows cease to roll.  
Olympus saw thee, and thy power confest,  
And Hell submissive hears thy fix'd behest:  
For thou canst penetrate those realms of woe,  
Where ghosts repose, and Lethe's waters flow.

In the dialogue of Plato also, which I have so often had occasion to quote, Love is described as a *twofold* or *double* divinity, whose influence extends over heaven and earth, and takes part in the management of the celestial and terrestrial affairs. Sophocles also, in the verses which are preserved by Stobæus\*, says of Venus:

—Τιδ' ουχι τησδε της θεας Ερα;

Εισερχεται μεν, κ. τ. λ.

Who does not feel her influence divine!  
The finny race, who haunt the depths of Ocean;  
The beasts, who range the groves—all own her sway!

Among the feather'd tribe, she proudly soars,  
And God, and man, and brutes, confess her power.  
Oft have her darts control'd the heavenly synod—  
Nay, if a mortal may declare *such* truths,  
Great Jove himself submits to her dominion!

Such Venus is! without or sword, or spear,  
Defenceless, and unarm'd, she braves the world,  
And reigns despotic over earth and heaven.

Euripides also says:

Ερωσθεων τε και ανθρωπων τυραννος,

Love is a tyrant over gods and men.

In the Wings of Love, by Simmias, of Rhodes, and in the notes of the learned Salmasius, the curious reader will find further information on this subject.

LUC. AGATHO, PRISCIUS.

Who this *Agatho* was is one of those knotty points which the critics have not been able to determine. Some say, but without any foundation, that *Agathias Scholasticus*, a poet and historian of a late age, is the person intended. Gevartius pronounces it to be *Agatho*, the tragic poet, who obtained the palm of victory among the

tragic writers, when Plato was only fourteen years old. In the house of this *Agatho*, the philosopher has made the scene of the dialogue on Love, which has been cited so frequently in this explanation. The learned Fabricius, in the first volume of his *Bibliotheca Græca*, asserts that the tragic poet, and the *Agatho* mentioned in this inscription, are different persons.

Who shall decide when doctors disagree?

I shall not at present enter into an investigation of this point, as in all probability it can never be satisfactorily settled, and as it does not seem, in my opinion, of any very great importance†.

NEC MARITUS, NEC AMATOR, NEC NECESSARIUS, &c.—SED OMNIA.

NEITHER HUSBAND, NOR LOVER, NOR EASY FRIEND, &c.—BUT ALL.

That is, he was the lover of one woman, although married to another. The word *necessarius* means probably a *pimp*, which in fact he was for himself, though he might *not* assist the intrigues of another. The explanation which Gevartius gives of this word seems nothing to the purpose.

NEQUE MÆRENS, NEQUE GAUDENS, NEQUE FLENS, &c.—SED OMNIA.

NEITHER SORROWFUL, NOR JOYFUL, NOR WEeping—BUT ALL.

Love is subject to the dominion of all the passions, of joy and grief, of hope and fear. “Hence, says Alexander Aphrodisæus‡, the painters delineate CUPID sometimes melancholy, and stretched along, at other times, winged for flight, and laughing.”

Plutarch also observes, that *Love* is truly inexplicable.

The passage is remarkable. He concludes with saying, that Cupid may be described enigmatically, “If any one should demand, what is *that* which hates and loves? Which flees and pursues? Which threatens and supplicates? Which is enraged and pitiful? Which wishes to stop, and yet desires to proceed? Which rejoices on the same account on which it is displeased?”

Q 2

Pliny

\* Ed. Grot. Tit. LXIII. pag. 239. See the former part of this speech translated in page 113. In Gevartius the lines are very incorrect. † The curious reader may consult Gevartius, Elect. III. 1. Fabricius, Bib. Græc. Vol. I. p. 664. And Bayle, Vol. I. ‡ Lib. I. Prob. 87.

Pliny says, in one of his letters to Paulinus\*: I am angry, and yet I know not whether I ought to be so—yet I am angry. You know how unjust a reasoner LOVE sometimes is, how frequently it is not master of itself, and that it is always petulant."

Claudian, in his poem on the nuptials of Honorius, mentions a bitter and a sweet fountain, into which LOVE immerses the points of his darts:

Here from a double spring two rivers flow:  
One sweet and rapid, bitter one and slow!  
At length they join, and thence corrupted glide,  
Though Cupid dips his arrows in the tide.

These verses allude to the ancient fable of the two-fold bow, from which Love was supposed to shoot his darts of pleasure and pain.

This part of the inscription may also be elucidated by a passage in the *Loves of Ismenias and Ismene*, by Eustathius†. But I must refer the curious reader to the romance itself. The whole passage is elegant, and merits attention.

HANC NEQUE MOLEM, NEQUE PYRAMIDEM, NEC SEPULCHRUM—  
SED OMNIA.

THIS, NEITHER PYLE, NOR PYRAMID, NOR SEPULCHRE—BUT ALL.

In the former part of this inscription, the author alluded to the various fates of unfortunate lovers, and in these words he refers to different repositories for the reception of the dead, and to the monuments erected to perpetuate their memory. Some raised tombs of *vast bulk*, like the mausoleum which Artemisia built for her husband. For others *pyramids* were constructed; which was the case after the death of the courtesan Rhodopis, whose pyramid was more admired than those of the Egyptian monarchs.

Diodorus Siculus informs us, that among the ancient inhabitants of Egypt, the *sepulchre* was the grandest monument, and that they were supposed to be the receptacles of the mistresses of Jupiter.

SCIT ET NESCIT CUI POSUERIT.  
KNOWS AND DOES NOT KNOW FOR  
WHOM HE ERECTS THIS.

The conclusion is ingenious. The

person who raised this tomb *knew* that he erected it to LOVE, although he *did not know* who LOVE was, as his titles were so different, and his forms so various.

To this explanation I shall subjoin a paraphrase of the whole, for the satisfaction of all readers.

In this inscription LOVE is typified under the titles of *Ælia*, *Lælia*, and *Crispis*, names which are very common in the amatory writings of the Romans. LOVE, from the universality of its influence, cannot properly be termed *man*, *woman*, nor *hermaphrodite*: nor *child*, nor *young*, nor *old*: nor *chaste*, nor *meretricious*, nor *modest*; although it partakes of *all*.

LOVE, from the variety of violent deaths by which its votaries perish, cannot be said to die particularly by *famine*, by *sword*, or by *poison*, although at different times it is carried off by *all*.

LOVE, from the various situations in which lovers die, cannot be pronounced with certainty to lose its existence in the *heavens*, at *sea*, nor on *earth*, although it lies *every where* at different periods.

Lucius Agatho Priscus, who is supposed to be the author of this inscription, was probably married to one woman, while he made love to another, and though he administered to his own pleasures, he did not to those of his acquaintance; so that he seems to have been a husband and not a husband, a lover and not a lover, an easy friend and not an easy friend. Agatho, from the fickleness of his disposition as a lover, was sometimes sorrowful, sometimes merry, and sometimes weeping. But never in any of these situations long together, although he was exposed to them *all*.

The monuments of lovers are neither particularly *tombs of vast size*, nor *pyramids*, nor *sepulchres*; but, at different times, *ALL*; and although Agatho *knew* that he dedicated this inscription to LOVE, he *did not know* what LOVE was, so variable and uncertain is its nature.

E. E.

\* Lib. II. Ep. 2.

† Lib. VI.



TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.  
ON BLACKGUARDISM AND GENTILITY.

SIR,

WHEN I consider the *characters* which stalk about this metropolis, under the title of *gentlemen*, I am proud to inform you that I have the honour to be a blackguard; and if it had not been for a few touches in your work, that shewed you to be no enemy to vulgar manners, as well as no mean proficient in the vulgar tongue, I should have beheld your miscellany with silent contempt, and should not have condescended to correspond with you. I like the title of your book, London is the scene of blackguardism, I am for no false refinements, no affected politeness, *gentility* (as they term it) which threaten to undermine our morals, pervert our good sense, and infect our behaviour. Formerly, it was the boast of this country, that every man might, in things indifferent, vary from his neighbour. Private liberty was as essential a mark of our manners, as public liberty was the characteristic of our constitution: no principles of politeness, no system of behaviour, no rules for raising a French or Italian superstructure on a Gothic foundation, but every man built his reputation on the basis of good sense and good nature. At present we begin to refine, and file, and polish, till our manners, as Sterne said of those of our neighbours, are growing as smooth and undistinguishable as an old King William's half-penny; and fashionable principles, like the legs of fashionable furniture, have scarce strength enough to support the frame that belongs to them.

Gentility, Sir (give me leave to repeat and insist on it) is the great bane

of our lives, the nurse of vice, dissipation and extravagance; the parent of bankruptcy, and source of corruption. Foreign manners will not thrive under our meridian. There is a kind of *magna charta* in our good-fellowship, as well as in our laws, that will not brook the controul of an honest hearty laugh, or endure to be fettered by dissertations on left legs.

In opposition to the contemptible animal, the new-fangled being, that now commonly distinguishes itself by the appellation of Gentleman, I am proud to stile myself a *Blackguard*—a name, Sir, which I think does me credit, both as a writer and a man. Humour, that genuine English production, is not the growth of a frippery age, nor founded on polished manners. It can only be cultivated by bold manly wits, such as Cervantes, Rabelais, Moliere, Swift, Gay, Arbuthnot, Fielding, Sterne, &c. &c. These, and such as these, are the classics of the school of Blackguard. In that school I have been bred, and have learned to despise a delicacy of manners that produces effeminacy, and a nicety of taste that proves the weakness of the stomach. If these are models you disapprove, I here take my leave of you; but if English virtue, English sense, and English humour are meant to be recommended and encouraged by the Editor of the London Magazine, he may, perhaps, hear further from one who is proud to own himself a friend to those qualities, and to subscribe himself

A BLACKGUARD.

REFLECTION.

IT has been objected against studying Thucydides, that he wrote a large folio comprising only a very short period—The time, indeed, is short, but the writer made ample amends by the

force of his descriptions, and the sublimity of his style—and it is a sufficient encomium perhaps to say that he was studied by Demosthenes, and imitated by Sallust.

FOR

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.  
 LIFE OF RICHARD BENTLEY, D. D.  
 LATE REGIUS PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY, AND MASTER OF TRINITY-COL-  
 LEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

Τιμιωτάτα μὲν καὶ πρῶτα τὰ περὶ τὴν ψυχὴν ἀγαθὰ.

PLATO, de Legib. IV.

(Continued from our last, page 43, and concluded.)

**B**ENTLEY was very severely though surely very improperly satirized by Pope, in the fourth book of the Dunciad. The lines are well known, and were occasioned by an opinion which was forced from Bentley, with respect to the translation of Homer, at Atterbury's table, while Pope was present. The Bishop very imprudently and indelicately asked the critic what he thought of the English Homer. The Doctor eluded the question for some time, but at last, when he was urged to speak his sentiments freely, he said; "The verses are good verses, but the work is not Homer, it is Spondanus!" Pope seldom forgot injuries, and many years after this conversation, he assigned a place in the Dunciad to our British Aristarchus. Never was satire more illiberal or unjust. Pope was not sufficiently acquainted with ancient literature to be capable of deciding on Bentley's critical abilities. He might see that many of his notes on Milton were trifling, and that his remarks on Horace were often bold and hazardous, but of his solid learning, his extensive knowledge, and his diversified erudition he was certainly not competent to form a judgement.

In the year 1735 he wrote an answer to some queries of an Oxford Gentleman, concerning the date of a Persian manuscript of the four Gospels, which had been sent from Ispahan. This letter has likewise been preserved by Dr. Taylor, and is published with his valuable little tract, *De debitore dissecando*. He says in his preface, that it is: "*Mole quidem parva, argutia autem et subtilitate plenissima. Qua diligenter perlecta eruditus Lector mecum sentiet nihil unquam argutius, nihil solidius aut verius ex Tripode fuisse responsum.*"

In 1738, a libel was exhibited before the Vicar-General of the Bishop of Ely, against Dr. Colbatch, Rector of Orwell, who refused to pay the proxies due to Dr. Bentley, as Archdeacon of Ely. In his defence Dr. Colbatch, who bore an excellent character, though his virtue was rather of the severer cast, alledged, that though Bentley had been Archdeacon forty years, he had never, in obedience to the ecclesiastical laws, been known to visit one church or chapel. Sentence, however, was passed against Colbatch, with costs of suit, upon which in 1741 he published a pamphlet intituled *The State of Proxies payable to Ecclesiastical Visitors* fully stated.

In 1739 appeared the *Astronomicon* of Manilius, with corrections and notes, by Dr. Bentley. This edition was ushered into the world by a dedication to the Duke of Newcastle, and a preface by Mr. Richard Bentley, a nephew of the Doctor; with whose approbation both these introductory pieces were written.

In the preface he gives a full account of his uncle's opinion of the work, and its author, as well as of the various manuscripts and printed copies which he consulted, in order to perfect this edition.

Bentley places Manilius in the age of Augustus; and among other proofs, he vindicates his assertion by the termination of the genitive cases of words in *ius*, and *ium*, which always terminated in a single *i*, before that period: as *Auxilium*, *Auxili*; *Consilium*, *Consili*; *Imperium*, *Imperi*; &c. Propertius is the first of the Roman poets, whose works are extant, in whom this rule is infringed, and by him only in two or three instances. Ovid, who lived rather



rather later, frequently uses the *double i*; and after him, it became general. This change, however, took place long after the accession of Augustus to the government. This remark we owe to Bentley, and it is worthy of the British Aristarchus. He first promulgated it in his notes on the *Andria*\* of Terence, where he candidly corrects a mistake which he had made in a passage of Horace, and justifies his observation on these genitive cases, by citing a passage from Nigidius Figulus, *Romanorum a Varrone doctissimus*, which is preserved by Gellius†, by which it is evident, that in his age *accent* was the only distinction between the genitive and vocative cases of words in *ius*, as N. Valerius. G. Valeri. V. Valeri. Bentley, therefore, as Manilius, or the author of the poem, whatever was his name, except in one Greek word, never uses the *double i*, in the *Casus interrogandi*, determines the *Astronomicon* to have been written in the early part of the age of Augustus.

The author, according to our critic, was a foreigner, and, therefore, the peculiarities of style which occur in his work do not militate against his having been contemporary with Augustus: especially as many of the exceptionable passages are proved by Bentley to be spurious. Of his name nothing certain can be pronounced. Neither the manuscript copies of the poem, nor the author in the course of his work, nor the testimony of other writers, bring any certain assistance.

With regard to the text, Bentley generally follows the edition of Scaliger, and has preserved all the readings which he rejected. In some passages, his corrections seem extravagantly different from the common copies: which appears to be in some measure excusable, when it is known, that no single piece on ancient literature was ever so much depraved by the negligence or ignorance of transcribers; for the various readings are more numerous even than the verses of the poem.

We cannot enter into a particular examination of Bentley's corrections on the present occasion, as the life of our

favourite critic has already extended far beyond the proposed limits. One emendation we must transcribe, as it is very happy, and elucidates a passage which was neither measure nor sense. Lib. V. 733.

*Utque per ingentes populus describitur urbes  
Præcipuumque patres retinent, et proximum  
equester  
Ordo locum; populumque equiti, populoque subire  
Vulgus iners videas, et jam sine nomine turbam:  
Sic etiam magno quædam RESPUBLICA mundo  
est.*

In the last line some copies have *respondere*, and the best manuscript has *res pendere*, instead of *respublica*, which we owe to the critical acumen of Dr. Bentley. The word was originally, he supposes, written *resp.* and from this the blundering transcribers derived their *respondere*: of which the learned editor in his note says: "*Respondere conjugationis tertiæ omnem barbariem exsuperat. Nec scias numeri an sententia sit peior.*"

Toup mentions this passage in his *Epistola Critica* with its due portion of praise‡: "*Quin et, dum hæc scribo, commodum in mentem venit emendationis Bentleianæ in Manilium, quam hæc occasione monitus, hic in transitu sublevandam curabo, nam et mea post me alii curabunt scilicet.*" He then quotes the passage, and gives the last line as it stands in the common copies:

*Sic etiam magno quædam respondere mundo.*

*Locus elegantissimus, sed versus postremus manifesto corruptus est: emendabat Bentleii sagacitas:*

*Sic etiam in magno quædam RESPUBLICA mundo est.*

*Quod alii veri, alii falsi simile esse dicunt. ego vero nihil certius esse affirmo. Fidem faciet Lactantius, Epit. cap. 2. Sic IN MUNDI RESPUBLICA, nisi unus fuisset moderator, &c.* There are several other

emendations, which display as much critical sagacity, and equally merit adoption; though Bentley has been accused of pretending not to understand passages in Manilius, merely to have an opportunity of exercising his abilities at correction. We do not pretend to vouch for the truth of this accusation, but must confess that we do not give it much credit. Such an affectation

\* Act II. Sc. I. Ver. 20. † Apud Gellium, XIII. 24. ‡ P. 169.

fection of ignorance could only produce ridicule, for if Bentley chose to be blind and dull himself, he could not suppose that the world would, therefore, be less sharp sighted.

The Astronomicon of Manilius was the last classical work which Dr. Bentley lived to publish, although he was among the first authors on whom he employed his corrective talents, with a view to publication. In the preface\* to his immortal dissertation on the Epistles of Phalaris, he says: "I had then prepared a Manilius for the press, which had been published already, had not the dearth of paper, and the want of good types, and some other occasions, hindered me."

In the former part of this life, we intentionally omitted mentioning Bentley's views, with regard to Manilius. We shall now transcribe from the same preface whatever relates to this subject.

Bentley had been accused by Boyle of sending a manuscript treatise about Theodorus Mallius, written by Rubenius, to Grevius, for publication, without mentioning Sir Edward Sherburn's name, from whom he had received it. This charge Bentley fully confutes. "I had prepared, he says, a new edition of Manilius; which design being known abroad, occasioned my acquaintance with Sir Edward Sherburn, who had formerly translated the first book of that poet into English verse, and explained it with a large commentary. He had got together some old and scarce editions, which he courteously lent me; and beside those, he had purchased at Antwerp, by the means of a bookseller, a whole box full of papers of the famous Gaspar Gevartius's, who undertook an edition of the same poet, but was prevented by death."

Among these papers he found little of any consequence, but the manuscript already mentioned, which he sent to the learned Grevius, who quite forgot the circumstances of Sir Edward Sherburn's box, when he published the book, and incautiously dedicated it to Dr. Bentley. He, however, afterwards apologized very sufficiently for this

neglect, in a letter to our learned critic, which he thus concludes: "*Vale—et tibi persuade, te doctos omnes viros maxime facere, rumpantur ut ilia Codris; sed neminem esse qui te majoris faciat, et magis aestimet quam ego te facio.*" In the former part of the epistle, he confesses that the omission of Sir Edward's name was *his own fault*, and that Bentley was not in the least censurable.

In the same box of Gevartius's papers, there were two copies of a discourse on the age of the poet Manilius, by the learned Godefridus Wendelinus. One of these Sir Edward presented to Bentley, who proposed to prefix the whole, or a part of it, to his edition of the Astronomicon. It is much, therefore, to be lamented, that the Doctor did not write the preface or *prolegomena* to this edition, as the learned world might then have been in possession of his sentiments with regard to this author, and his various editors and commentators, more fully than they are stated by his nephew.

In the account of Bentley's early life, one circumstance was omitted. About the time of the publication of his Epistle to Dr. Mill, on the Chronography of Malela, he published a specimen of a new edition of Philostratus, at Leipzig. Only one sheet was printed. This circumstance is mentioned by the indefatigable Fabricius, and by Olearius, in his preface to the works of Philostratus. They do not, however, mention the reason of his laying his plan aside. He intended to have given the text in a more correct manner than former editors, with notes and a new Latin version. We cannot help lamenting that Bentley did not prosecute his design. Every edition of the ancients executed by such a scholar must have been valuable; and it is rather surprising, when his deep knowledge of Greek is considered, that he did not devote his time seriously to publishing more of the writers in that language. He executed, indeed, much less than he proposed; but the quarrels into which he was involved by his enemies may in some measure account for the fewness



fewness of the authors, whose works appeared under the auspices of the great Bentley.

In the year 1740, Dr. Bentley lost his lady, whom he had married soon after he was preferred to the mastership of Trinity-College. He did not long survive her, but died the fourteenth day of July 1742, and was buried in Trinity-College chapel. The following short inscription is placed on the stone which covers his grave:

H. S. E.

RICHARDUS BENTLEY,

S. T. P. R.

OBIIT XIV. Jul. 1742.

ÆTATIS 80.

These are all the monumental honours of this great man, who needed not the inscription of a tombstone to transmit his memory to posterity\*.

He left behind him three children. His son, Mr. Richard Bentley, who was educated under the Doctor's inspection, at Trinity College, of which he was chosen fellow, succeeded his father, as Royal Librarian at St. James's, but resigned the place in 1745. He died in the year 1782, and was more eminent for his elegant taste in the polite arts, than for his philological acquisitions. He displayed his ingenuity and fancy in the admirable designs which he made for Mr. Gray's poems, which were afterwards engraved and published. To his pen the public are indebted for the Tragedy of Philodamus, which Mr. Gray esteemed so highly, that he wrote a commentary on it, and pronounced it to be one of the first poetical compositions in the English language. Good *dramatic poems*, however, are not always good *plays*. It was introduced on the stage, above fifteen years after its publication, in 1782, at the Theatre Royal in Covent-Garden, but it did not succeed.

Dr. Bentley's elder daughter, Elizabeth, was married about the year 1727, to Sir Humphry Ridge, the eldest son of Mr. Ridge, who possessed a considerable fortune, and was brewer to the navy at Portsmouth. A grandson of the learned Dr. Cumberland, Bishop of Peterborough, married his younger

LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.

daughter, Joanna, a few years after, and died not long ago Bishop of Kilmore, in Ireland. Their son, Mr. Cumberland, who is so well known in the dramatic world, and who defended the character of Dr. Bentley against the attacks of the Bishop of London, may exclaim

*Descendam magnorum laud unquam indignus avorum.*

From the grandson of Dr. Bentley, and the great grandson of the Bishop of Peterborough, literary abilities might be naturally expected.

But these were not the only *offspring* which Dr. Bentley left behind him:

*"Est tibi quæ natos Bibliotheca parit."*

Besides his ample collections for the Greek Testament, and Jerom's Latin version, he left an Homer, with marginal notes and emendations, preparatory to an edition which he proposed to publish; and a corrected copy of the Bishop of Peterborough's celebrated book, *De Legibus Naturæ*. Both of these are intended to be laid before the public. Almost all his classical authors were enriched with his manuscript notes, and are still in the possession of his executor, Dr. Richard Bentley, or Mr. Cumberland. From one of these, in the year 1744, Squire procured Dr. Bentley's *Animadversiones* on Plutarch's treatise *De Iside et Osiride*, and by the consent of the executors, incorporated them into his edition of that piece, with those of Markland, and other commentators. Many of these corrections bear the genuine mark of critical sagacity, which Bentley has stamped in a greater or less degree on all his performances.

In 1746, among the prefaces and dedications which the learned Alberti prefixed to his splendid edition of Hesychius, appeared an inedited letter written by Dr. Bentley, in the year 1714, to John Christian Biel, at Brunswick, *De Glossis sacris in Hesychio institutis*. This is a very curious and valuable letter, as it shews the great advantages which Bentley derived from this lexicographer, in the prosecution of his studies, and at what an early period, that marked attention, and extraordinary

R

\* Biog. Brit. v. 1. p. 242. note FF. † Biog. Brit. p. 244. 247.

dinary acuteness displayed themselves, which shone forth so conspicuously afterwards in all our critic's philological disquisitions.

In 1760, Mr. Horace Walpole, whose singular abilities, and strenuous exertions in the cause of literature are superior to our praise, printed, at Strawberry hill, a splendid edition of Lucan, in quarto, with the notes and corrections of Dr. Bentley. The superintendence of the press was committed to Mr. Cumberland, who performed his part of the work with equal learning and fidelity.

The public had been long in possession of some of Bentley's annotations on Lucan, which were inserted in his remarks on Collins's Freethinking. This work, however, added a fresh laurel to his wreath, as he has restored many passages, by his judicious and elegant corrections, which were absolutely unintelligible, and elucidated many difficulties by his acuteness, which had baffled the sagacity of former annotators\*.

Such are the particulars which we have been able to collect concerning the life and writings of Dr. Richard Bentley. In the mode of arrangement, a plan has been adopted very different from that which the ingenious authors

of the *Biographia Britannica* have pursued. The transactions of his life, and the account of his writings, have been blended in the same narrative. For the publications of an author, like the marches and countermarches of a general, form the chief part of his history, and ought surely never to be separated from the relation of private or other occurrences. To the accounts of this great man which have already been published we have added many particulars, and have ventured to intersperse our narrative with critical remarks on his different works, in order to render it more worthy the attention of our learned readers. But to close these memoirs. We shall conclude with the words with which our learned countryman, Toup finishes his *Epistola Critica* to Bishop Warburton: "Atque hic finem facio *vite* prolixiori: in qua si quid, corrente rota, inconsulte aut intemperanter nimis, qui mos nostrorum hominum est, in Bentleium nostrum dixi id omne pro indicto velim: BENTLEIUM inquam, Britanniae nostrae decus immortale:—quem nemo vituperare auit, nisi fungus; nemo non laudet, nisi Momus."

"His saltem adcumulem donis, ac fungar inani  
"Munere."——

T. T.

\* For this character of Bentley's Lucan, we are indebted to a gentleman, whose name is equally an ornament to polite and literary circles. The book is in the possession of a few friends, to whom Mr. Walpole has presented it. We have seen it, but never had an opportunity of examining its merits.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE. ON THE FAIR SEX.

SIR,

SOME of your essays have informed me, that the female sex attracts your regard, and that you wish to defend them, by endeavouring to root out *vulgar errors*. You do not seem to think with Mahomet, that women are void of souls to be made happy in the next world; or, with a late lord, that they are incapable of reason and common sense in the present. During the female reigns of Anne and Elizabeth, indeed, such doctrines would have been considered as moral and political heresies, no less than religious: and they deserve, I think, as little encourage-

ment in our times, when we see a Queen consort on the throne, at least equally amiable, and perhaps as wise in declining politics, as the illustrious regents above-mentioned were glorious in administering them.

Familiar essays, Sir, have hitherto been peculiarly devoted to the service of the ladies. Steele and Addison stepped forth, like literary knights-errant, to rescue the fair from the daemons of vice, and spells of ignorance, endeavouring to render the toilet the altar of the Muses, as well as the place of sacrifice to the Graces. They thought the manners and



and principles of women not unimportant to the happiness of men, and did not esteem it a disgrace to their parts or learning, to *write down* to the understandings of female readers. Essays in general are, indeed, a kind of whipt-sillabub literature, not above the pitch of a mere housewifely comprehension, and as becoming a part of the parlour-window furniture, as a tambour or a thread paper.

I do not mean, Sir, by what I have said, to accuse you of an elevation of style and manner that throws us at a distance, but rather to hint that a frequent attention to the ladies would render your work more acceptable to your female readers. Are you afraid that the distinguished propriety, elegance, and decent modesty of the females of the present age will afford you no room for animadversion? Or do you think them totally incorrigible? For my part, Sir, I believe them to be formed of the very same materials as their mothers were before them, equally

prone to err, and equally capable of amendment and instruction.

Female virtues are certainly of consequence to the order of the moral world, and foibles ought not to be suffered to spring up neglected, and to over-run the mind like thorns and idle weeds: yet their delicacy is not to be wounded. Their follies must be tenderly probed, and the essayist, like the surgeon, should have the hand of a lady. Shakspeare's characters of women, like the portraits of females by the president of our Royal Academy, are almost the only good ones drawn by men. There is a coarseness of outline, colour, and design, in most other artists, that make their ladies appear not in the simple style of Cælia, Rosalind, Imogen, Desdemona, but rather like men dressed in women's clothes. These hints, I hope, will be serviceable. If you adopt them, I think you will enlarge the circle of your readers, and I am sure you will oblige your constant reader,

ADELINÉ.

---

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.  
TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,

THE distressed of mankind are a perpetual fund for lamentation. Go where we will, visit what company we will, we still find accumulated griefs, reiterated complaints, weeping and wailing. One complains of the weather, another of the taxes, and a third of the price of stocks. One reproaches the late war, another bewails the loss of America, and a third mourns for the fate of a wreck. By imparting these different griefs, each man to his neighbour, sorrow is diffused over the whole race, and that monster *Discontent* appears in every link of this lamentable chain. When we rise in the morning we find something wrong; when we lie down we recollect that we have not done that which we ought to have done. If we go into the country, we find something amiss, and when we return we are confounded by some new blunder or other. If all is well at home, it is an hundred to one but bad weather makes us miserable abroad, and if the finest season

is inviting in all its beauties we probably have some mischief at home to make it the most disagreeable place we can go to. In a word, scarcely a day passes without some expressions of dissatisfaction, and that of the most discordant kind. One would have rain, and another would have dry weather. One would prefer frost to thaw, and another is an advocate for deep storms, and permanent ones.

To reconcile these differences, and give happiness to my fellow-creatures, Mr. Editor, has long been my particular study, and although I have not been very successful, I flatter myself I have done some good in my generation. Although I could not rid my friend *Henpeck* of a troublesome wife, yet I convinced him that an industrious wife, though troublesome, was better than no wife at all. Although I cannot dissuade the farmers from wishing for rain, I am sometimes able to persuade them that the command of the rain is in better hands at present than it could

be with them; and although poor *Quidnunc*, my neighbour, frets himself into an atrophy on account of the taxes, I have more than once made him confess that taxes must increase with the exigencies of state. *Clericus*, too, who wishes for the self-creating power that would enable him to make a bishop of himself, has more than once agreed with me, that competence and contentment are preferable to superabundance and cares.

But, Mr. Editor, the best advice makes but a temporary impression in these self-conceited times, when every man sets himself up for a Solomon, and his simple assertion for a law. All my persuasions have lost their effect on the suggestion of some new whim. While ruminating on these things some nights since, I fell into what is called a *reverie*, which is a something between sleeping and waking, but which I term, perhaps more properly, the *mad fit* of a speculative man. The manner of my reverie was this.

Methought a solemn act, ratified by the unanimous consent of the three estates, King, Lords, and Commons, took place under the auspices of some of our greatest statesmen, and truest patriots, who devised it. The heads of this act were as follow:

“An act for the more effectually preventing discontent among the people of Great-Britain, and Berwick on Tweed.”

It enacts, “Imprimis, That the four elements, commonly called fire, water, earth, and air shall, for the future, and in all time coming, or that may hereafter come, be under the sole guidance, direction, management, and superintendence of parliament, and that a committee of both Houses shall sit perpetually, to hear petitions and redress grievances from these quarters. And that it shall be lawful for them, or any four of their number, duly convened, to dispell storms, raise winds, check torrents, or make earthquakes, as in their wisdom they shall think fit. That if they think proper to dissolve the frost sooner than usual, or add a couple of months to the summer, the elements shall be bound to obey.

“Secondly, That in all time coming, it shall be allowed to every man to live as long as he pleases, where he

pleases, and how he pleases, that the charter by which *Death* has a power over the lives of men be hereby destroyed, and that arsenic, gin, bad wine, and British spirits have no despotic power, nor pretend to any direction of the health of man. That all diseases shall in future, from the twenty-second day of March next, yield up the power and usurped privileges which for a series of years they have most iniquitously enjoyed, to the great prejudice of foakers, alehouse politicians, and city magistrates.

“Thirdly, That it shall be lawful for any man to kill himself when he pleases, or in whatsoever manner he pleases, whether in youth, manhood, or old age, whether by gun, by gin, sword, pistol, hot punch, four claret, too much roast beef, or by gentleman-like satisfaction, whether at home, abroad, in the tavern, or behind Montague-house.

“Fourthly, That the sovereign command of the whole brute creation, of every species, be vested in a committee to be appointed for the purpose, that none may complain of hunger, lean kine, or any inconvenience now in common; with exception to the management of the *horned* cattle, which, for several reasons, and because of similitude and consanguinity, shall be vested in the court of aldermen.

“Fifthly, That all the passions and affections, whether love, grief, hatred, fear, joy, &c. &c. shall be regulated under certain laws and restrictions, and that all persons who wish to get into passions must have a licence, by which they shall be permitted at all times and on all occasions to make fools of themselves. And that all persons who wish to get rid of their unruly passions may always find a committee of the House of Commons ready to purchase and use them for the public good.”

The same act recites a great number of other regulations which have escaped my memory. But I can remember that there was a general joy dispersed over the nation, in consequence of the new system of reform. Addressees flocked from all parts, praying for a change of weather. Motions were made in both Houses for storms, fair weather, and sunshine. More than once I remember the



the *sun* was defeated by a great majority, who carried the motion in favour of the *moon*, and a very well drawn up *autumn bill* was lost by the desertion of many members, who took the side of *long winter*. Methought I was requested to sign an address of the freeholders, thanking his M—— for putting an end to the late *volcanos*, and praying

him to appoint a permanent spring, when, in my eagerness to sign the address, I overturned a quarto on the floor, which brought me to my senses. And thus ended my *fit*. If you think that an account of it can entertain your readers, it is at your service.

London, Your's,  
Feb. 14, 1784. SOMNOLENTUS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.  
O N D A N C I N G.

S I R,

AS I find that you sometimes admit letters from correspondents on the abuses of the times, I have been induced to send you the following strictures on a *general folly*. To correct *particular failings* is a task very ill suited to a public journal. My animadversions will be almost confined to Dancing. In earlier times, none but people's children of the first class were taught that accomplishment, or those whom their parents apprenticed out to the profession, in order for them to get their bread by it: in these double-refined days we hear the fiddle yielding discordant notes in almost every dirty alley, while some vulgar Miss practises her steps.

Sally Sweep and Molly Marrowbone learn French, and to scratch a tune on the guittar: indeed the former young lady, being a joint heiress to her father's footy gains, is indulged with a higher notion of music; she scarce attains her eleventh year, when an opera dancer is employed to complete her education. Nor is this all, a harpsichord is purchased, a master is sought for and easily found; Sally soon thumps treble and bass to the tune of "Old Sir Simon, and Dawson's hornpipe." Now, were the second class of tradesmen to strike off dancing (or at least confine it within the precincts of a minuet and a plain country dance) the tambour, as also the ideal and superficial name of music; and in the room of these let their girls be taught to read, write, spell, and work well with their needle; to be at school no longer than till they enter the first teen; then instruct them in domestic knowledge, best calculated to render a maid a wife; what a race of amiable young women should we then behold! Hymen's

torch would ever be burning; our young men would not then prefer keeping a miss, to the chaste ties the connubial yoke throws on them: for what is beauty without prudence, or a graceful person without useful knowledge? These endure when the roses of the cheek are no more: the charms of a graceful gait, are very attracting; misses who have learnt to dance for years at the boarding-school, when they have been called home (in their eighteenth year) by degrees wean themselves from, and forget, that which was attained by much expence and some trouble, and, only instructed by the prejudices of education, make themselves unhappy if no body comes to woo, and ready to elope with the first butterfly that spreads his gaudy wings, and flutters around them? Who would be so low-lived as to know how to make a shirt? *No one!* cry the present race of girls; *no one* (they significantly repeat) but those who are reduced to get their bread by mischance. I verily believe, at every boarding-school within thirty miles of London, the idea of cutting out and making a shirt or shift is as strange to the governess, teachers, and half boarders, as it is to the young people entrusted to their tuition; what are we to expect, except idleness, if relations and friends will not listen to reason, by banishing music, drawing, and every trivial accomplishment, unless they are truly convinced their children have an ear for the one, and a taste for the other; else the former will be rendered discord, and the latter a task of slavery? In these musical and dancing days, I shall expect to see a young lady stirring a pudding with a pitch-fork, and a young man measuring tape with a fiddle-stick.

AMANDUS.

## P O E T R Y.

RETROSPECTION,  
AN ODE.

AS downward on the stream of years  
With constant lapse I glide,  
How dark the low'ring sky appears!  
How turbid rolls the tide!  
Each hour the rough'ning billows flow  
Involv'd in thicker clouds of woe,  
On which, a sadly pensive form,  
With drooping head, Dejection sits;  
While gusts of passion rave by fits,  
And blow a dreadful storm.

In vain with aching sight I try  
The future to pervade;  
No straggling beam of Hope is nigh  
To light me through its shade.  
Ah! then, permit me to review  
The peace my youthful moments knew;  
The peace I ne'er must know again;  
The peace, which, too refin'd to cloy,  
Possession calls consummate joy,  
And Mem'ry joyful pain.

To Retrospection's piercing eyes,  
In sunshine painted gay,  
The scenes of former times now rise,  
And now in mists decay.  
My native cottage there I see,  
Where in thy lap, Simplicity!  
My guiltless childhood, slept or play'd  
In yonder fields, of thought devoid,  
Or else with pleasing thoughts employ'd,  
How often have I stray'd!

My parent brook I next behold,  
To which I oft have run,  
To view the fish their robes of gold  
Shew glancing to the sun.  
The copse and lawn to these succeed,  
Where from my steps of eager speed  
The infant linnets trembling flew;  
Where, charm'd with beauty's brightest dyes,  
I wont the gaudy butterflies  
Unwearied to pursue.

But neither copse nor lawn delight  
So much as yonder glade,  
Which oft, from early morn to night,  
My residence I made.  
There, hid from each profaner eye,  
My mimic toil I lov'd to ply,  
While spires of pebbles round me rose:  
E'en now methinks I busy stand,  
E'en now, constructed by my hand,  
The tiny turret grows.

Ah! happy view of happy years!  
When Hope upon me smil'd,  
Attended by her gay compeers,  
Young Health, and Vigour wild:  
When Fancy wav'd her magic wand,  
And, instant, at her high command,  
In all the rainbow's colours drest,  
A thousand Pleasures o'er my head  
Their variegated plumage spread,  
Or flutter'd on my breast.

But Fancy now, deceitful queen!  
Has from me stretch'd her flight,  
And all the joyous fairy scene  
Decays at Reason's light.  
If Reason then can only show  
My riper manhood fights of woe,  
And give it o'er to sharpest pain,  
Me, while the sons of Sense and Truth  
Are wretched, may thy follies, Youth,  
And falsehoods bless again.

*To Miss FREDERICK, singing and playing on  
the harpsichord.*

By the Right Honourable CHARLES FOX.

WHEN Orpheus touch'd y trembling string,  
He tam'd, as ancient poets sing,  
The Lybian lion's rage;  
He could the forest from the hill  
Move downwards, bending to his will,  
And the loud storm assuage.

The list'ning dolphin willing bore  
Arion to the friendly shore,  
Charm'd with his lenient song;  
And while he softly sung and play'd,  
The sweet musician safe convey'd  
The threat'ning waves along.

But, Frederick, when thou strik'st the chord,  
Phœbus himself, in just reward  
For merit such as thine,  
Attunes thy voice, directs thy lyre,  
And bids each sister Muse admire,  
Lest she with envy pine.

On the DEATH of QUEEN ANNE'S SON.  
By the old DUKE of DORSET.

FOR Gloster's death, which sadly we deplore,  
Fate is accus'd; we should commend it more.  
Lest he with Burnet's faith should be endued,  
And taught by Churchill truth and gratitude;  
Lest two such monsters should their art intill,  
And his young soul with pois'nous precepts fill,  
Untimely force heaven kindly did employ,  
And, to preserve the man, cut off the boy.

## S O N G.

DORINDA's sparkling wit and eyes  
United cast so fierce a light,  
Which blazes high, then quickly dies,  
Warms not the heart, but hurts the sight.

True Love, all gentleness and joy,  
Approaches with a modest grace,  
Her Cupid is a blackguard boy,  
That claps his link full in your face.

## CHLOE WEEPING.

By the late DUKE of DORSET.

CHLOE, for shame, y sighs and tears give o'er,  
And let y breast with anger swell no more.  
Let female envy ne'er your passion move,  
Those eyes are not for envy made, but love.

What



178

What though each rival fair, by scandal taught,  
Will construe every look into a fault,  
Tho' some your wit, and some your beauty blame,  
Your beauty and your wit are still the same.  
No charm was ever yet by envy lost,  
For she's most envy'd who can please us most.

## E P I T A P H.

**E**NTOMB'D beneath this lofty tree  
A mortal lies of low degree.  
A strict observer from his youth  
Of that important virtue, truth.  
He never with a selfish view  
Was known to speak a word untrue.  
His temper lively, yet as mild  
And harmless as a new-born child.  
He never slander'd friend or foe,  
Nor triumph'd in another's woe;  
And tho', when young, he us'd to roam,  
For years he lov'd his little home:  
Securely there he laid him down,  
Nor fear'd the world's ill-natur'd frown:  
No wild ambitious thoughts possess'd  
His quiet, unambitious breast.  
He envied neither wealth nor power,  
Enjoying still the present hour:  
Contented with his daily bread,  
Each night he sought his peaceful bed:  
Stranger to vice he knew no fear,  
As life's important end drew near;  
He breath'd his last without a sigh,  
And shew'd how Innocence should die.  
Blush, reader, while these lines you scan,  
Here lies a MONKEY, not a Man.

## A B I R A N;

Or, THE VICTIM OF FANCIED WOE

"**W**HENCE this oppressive load of woe?  
Th' involuntary sigh?

And th' oozing tear about to flow  
From my dejected eye?

O Melancholy! how thy power  
Against my peace conspires!  
Still will thy leaden aspect lour,  
And quench my genial fires.

Oh! why is my desponding mind  
Become thy very slave?  
And may I not—alas! not find  
A refuge in the grave?

The grave will give secure repose  
From persecuting grief;  
For there alone, from heavy woes,  
The weary have relief.

Alas! in early life to leave  
This world so good and fair!  
Not so to me, who pine and grieve,  
The victim of despair.

And yet how bright those shining skies!  
How lovely Nature's face!  
The groves and hills around me rise,  
Robed with celestial grace.

I know them beautiful! I see  
How beautiful they are;  
I feel their beauty! yet, ah me!  
My bosom pines with care.

In vain to me the vernal gale  
Dispenses soft perfume,  
While thro' the windings of the vale  
He flies from bloom to bloom.

Can wit or gaiety impart  
Enjoyment to my breast?  
I smile, e'en laugh; but, in my heart,  
My griefs are ill suppress'd.

And what can tuneful numbers do?  
Or the melodious string?—  
They can improve the sense of woe,  
And sharpen Sorrow's sting.

E'en when I would be gay, a sigh  
Betrays my secret care—  
Be happy, ye who can, for I  
Must struggle with despair.

Nor can I Nature blame; she made  
Me capable of joy:  
She gave me powers: and Fortune said,  
Go, and thy powers employ.

And I have known Delight; erewhile  
Have seen her beauty shine:  
And blest'd with her endearing smile,  
Have call'd the blessing mine.

Bear witness, every soft recess  
That heard my vocal lay;  
And scenes of social happiness,  
That I was truly gay.

And bring the bliss of former days,  
O Memory!—she brings  
The sportive images: obeys,  
But, in obeying, stings.

The green-hill and th' enamell'd plain,  
Where blythe I us'd to range,  
How soft and lovely they remain!  
But I have suff'ring change.

Of early friends untimely rest,  
They are the mould'ring clay!  
They sleep; and I, alas! am left  
More desolate than they.

I envy you, ye silent dead,  
And your eternal sleep:  
Ye are from care and sorrow fled;  
And I am left to weep.

My joys are deaden'd; clouds invest,  
And glooms involve my skies;  
And more t' afflict my widow'd breast,  
Soft images arise.

I see a lovely scene with flowers,  
With groves and verdure gay:  
I hasten to the blissful bowers,  
Lur'd by the festive lay.

Soft melodies around, above,  
Breathe through the vocal air;  
And the long, liquid notes of love  
Soothe and subdue despair.

And

\* This poem is a translation from the German, by the ingenious Mr. PROFESSOR  
RICHARDSON, of Glasgow.

And now I quaff the cup of joy !  
The phantoms fly away !  
Stay, ye transporting pleasures !——why  
Will not the vision stay ?

Wild wastes appear, and gloomy skies,  
And pealing thunders roll !  
And tempests—Oh ! what tempests rise  
In my distracted soul !

But let me search my secret heart ;  
Perhaps some latent crime  
Hath planted there a deadly dart,  
And blasts me in my prime.

I am not guilty——gracious God !  
I say not I am pure :  
And I would kiss thy chast'ning rod,  
And thy rebuke endure :

But that to guiltier men——O Heaven !  
Forgive my froward will——  
To guiltier men than I is given  
Security from ill.——

Poor toiling spirit ! wilt thou yet  
Thus with thy griefs debate ?  
Be still ! be senseless ! and submit  
To thy determin'd fate.

O then, why am I what I am ?  
Why am I made to glow  
With ardour of extatic flame,  
Yet be condemn'd to woe ?

Rage on, ye storms ! descend, and down  
The sky with fury roll !  
And let the fiends of horror frown  
On my devoted soul.——

Thus flow'd Abiran's secret woe,  
As thro' a pathless glade,  
Unseen, with sullen pace and slow  
His wayward footstep stray'd :

And deep into the devious wood  
He urg'd his desperate way,  
Where savage rocks and groves exclude  
The sun's enliv'ning ray :

And fierce in his distemper'd breast  
The dire suggestion rose :  
“ The grave (he cried) to the distress'd,  
The grave will give repose.”

He paus'd ; his cheek grew wan ; his eye  
With wild distraction glar'd :  
He rais'd the gleaming poniard high ;  
The frantic before him bar'd.——

Instant, athwart th' incumbent gloom  
A flood of light appear'd :  
The grove was fill'd with soft perfume :  
A sudden voice was heard !

A gentle voice ! gentler than gales  
That wave their musky wings  
In Aden's aromatic vales,  
Or by Daphnean springs.

“ Attend, thou plaintive son of earth !  
Yield to the will of heaven :——  
To me, appointed at thy birth,  
The pious charge was given,

To guard thee from th' insidious wile  
And craft of vicious care ;  
The Syren song that would beguile,  
The smile that would ensnare :

Nor less to guide thy reckless way  
From those sequester'd bowers,  
Where melancholy would betray,  
And blast thy growing powers.

Spirits of finest texture, oft  
Are by her sighs deceiv'd ;  
And by her air and accent soft,  
Of inward peace bereav'd.

Fly then from her recesses, fly !  
The gales that gently blow  
In fancied sympathy reply  
Harmonious to thy woe.

The turtle cooing in the dale,  
Will with thy grief accord :  
And the deep umbrage of the vale  
Congenial glooms afford.

Nor seek, with fruitless toil, to learn,  
Why virtue suffers pain.——  
Canst thou the lightning's path discern  
The lightning's fury rein ?

In earthly frame pent and confin'd,  
How can thy soul pretend  
The conduct of th' Almighty mind  
T' arraign or comprehend ?

If in the Lybian desert wide,  
To slake the lion's thirst,  
E'en from the rock's reluctant side  
He bids the fountain burst :

And bids, for wild-birds, lofty trees  
Their ruddy harvest bear,  
The Father of mankind ! he sees,  
Nor disregards thy care.

Nor fruitless are the storms of woe  
To the progressive mind :  
For they give vigour, and to glow  
With energy refin'd.

Observe how winds and beating rains,  
Drench and deform the dale ;  
And how the husbandman complains,  
And how the shepherds wail.

But when the rains are blown away,  
Behold ! a thousand dyes,  
And flowers and fruit, and verdure gay,  
In every field arise.

You know not, if with meek regard  
You wait the will of heaven ;  
You know not what sublime reward  
May to your grief be given.”

#### E P I G R A M M E.

**P**OUR tous les vers qu'il fait, le poete Lubin  
Resient une tendresse extreme :  
Mais des enfans gates ses vers ont le destin ;  
Leur pere est le seul qui les aime.

OF each scrap of his poetry Archer so vain,  
Like a parent shews fondness extreme ;  
But the fate of spoilt children they're doom'd to  
obtain,  
Whom none but their parents esteem.

LITERARY



## L I T E R A R Y   R E V I E W.

## A R T I C L E   X L I I.

*TWO Dialogues concerning the Manner of writing History. From the French of the Abbé de Mably. 12mo. 3s. sewed. Kearsley.*

THE present age may, perhaps, justly be styled the age of history writing; every work, therefore, which treats of this favourite study seems to insure success from its being *seasonable*. The dialogues, however, before us have a claim likewise to public notice from their merit.

It is to be lamented that the Abbé Mably did not publish his book some years ago, as it might have been very serviceable to many of the adventurers in this walk of literature. It would have taught them the wide difference between the mere relater of facts, and the genuine historian.

The Abbé is well known among the literati of France, as the author of *Observations on the Greeks and Romans—Conferences of Phocion—Public Jurisprudence of the European States*—and several other productions. In all he discovers the most admirable philosophy, the most accurate knowledge of mankind, and the nicest taste, combined and animated by a clear head and a virtuous heart.

These dialogues may justly be considered as one of his most masterly performances. The method is clear, the ideas are generally just, and very frequently new. With the form we are not so well pleased. It is a relation, in the platonic manner, of a conference which passed between the author and two philosophical friends, on *the manner of writing History*.

This subject has been seldom treated. Our ingenious countryman Mr. Hayley, a few years ago favoured the literary world with *an essay on History*, inscribed to Mr. Gibbon, which has been received with merited applause. In the following critique, we shall present our readers with the characters of the historians, as they are drawn by the prose writer and the poet.

The first dialogue treats of the dif-

ferent kinds of history; of the studies, which are the necessary preparatives for writing it. General and universal histories.

The dialogue is between Cidamon, Theodosius, and Eugenius. After the introduction, Eugenius thus explains the duty of an historian, and the requisites which are necessary to render him equal to the task which he assumes:

“The historian, like the poet and the orator, must be *born; not made*. The genius which must form them is the gift of nature, and cannot spring alone from education. If, when perusing the writings of the great historians, you have not felt that something like a spirit of emulation began to take possession of your mind; if the paintings of Livy, of Sallust, and of Tacitus have not inspired you with enthusiasm, I should not (and I hope Cidamon will forgive me when I differ from him in opinion) I should not then advise you to undertake the task of an historian; because, notwithstanding that your abilities would support you throughout a work of elegance, and even force of reasoning, you must prove incapable of imparting to it that life which can alone render it as useful as agreeable.

“Granting that you were born an historian, no person can know better than yourself what kind of history you ought to write. Recollect what particular ideas have made the greatest impression upon your mind whilst you read over the accomplished models of the art. If, for example, you have naturally, and, as it were by instinct, rivetted your whole attention upon the particular details of Livy, which serve to unravel and exhibit in a striking form the genius of the Romans; if the description of the laws has powerfully engaged your notice; and if the picture of revolutions, which intervened amidst the government of the republic, has thrown you into a train of serious and deep reflections, you may relinquish all diffidence and distrust of the successful vigour of your talents, and enter upon a general history. Have no circumstances affected you so much as the wars of the Romans, their military discipline, and the achievements of their consuls? Then, write only the history of some memorable war, which may have changed the fortune of the contending states. If, more interested by the various workings of the human heart, you have particularly contemplated the passions, the vices, and the virtues of those men whose conduct or whose administration has been explained to you, tread in the steps of Plutarch, and strive to enlighten and to amend us by presenting to us the faithful portraits of distinguish-

ed characters, whose abilities have done honour to humanity, and whose lives we should consider as an instructive lesson to us for ever.

" Different kinds of history require different talents and perceptions. Consult your strength (is the advice of Horace and Boileau to young poets) and do not strive to raise a load, the weight of which you have not power to support. This advice applies with equal force to all writers whatsoever; nor is it possible too strictly to avoid forming such a judgement concerning the propriety of undertaking any work, as must arise merely from our ideas of the importance and the dignity of the subject. Let us rigidly examine into the nature and the force of our abilities, and always fear that these may be exaggerated by our vanity. If Anacreon and Catullus, yielding to the dictates of an absurd and arrogant opinion of themselves, had disdained to pay the least attention to those agreeable trifles which have not merely amused but covered them with the brilliancy of poetical reputation, and tried to blow the trumpet of Calliope, and wield the dagger of Melpomene, they must have made themselves the objects of contempt and ridicule. A similar reflection is not less applicable to historians. What a fund of knowledge, what a diversity of talents, of which neither Tacitus nor Sallust stood in need, was requisite for Livy! Amidst the annals of history, an immense multitude of characters arise, of which the resemblance can only be marked out by different pencils, and by different colours. Following the Romans through all their progress, and all their revolutions, Livy must lay open the variety of causes and connections. To attract the reader, he must paint all the passions, and, in succession, the virtues or the vices which have either elevated or destroyed the grandeur of the Romans. You perceive, then, Theodosius! that this vast genius, which embraces every object, was not necessary to Sallust, in order that he might perfectly describe the conspiracy of Catiline and the war of Jugurtha.

" I might observe as much of Tacitus, who, having excelled in portraying the dark passions of Tiberius, the imbecility of Claudius, the wickedness of Nero, the intrigues of the free-men who governed, and the baseness of a senate either yielding to the impulse of fear, or sacrificing their talents and their virtues to obtain the favour of their prince, would not, perhaps, have discovered the secret springs which worked upon the circumstances that introduced the various fortunes of the Romans, since he seems to have been destitute of the least foresight of their ruin, which was prepared and absolutely announced by the despotism of the successors of Augustus. Concerning Plutarch, I can venture to pronounce opinions much more decisive. He is a perfect pattern of historic writing when the subject of his labours stands confined solely to the life of some illustrious person. He always paints the man and hero in the same moment. He places before our eyes, he dissects and lays open for us his very soul; he unravels all those intricate emotions which push it into action; and he lights up within us the love of whatsoever has a claim to praise, and is at once beautiful and sublime. Yet, this historian, whose equal

we, perhaps, shall never see, most certainly, had not abilities and genius sufficient to have enabled him to write a general history of Greece. In the whole body of society, the passions have a kind of play, a progress, and those varieties of caprice which are more difficult to follow; and which he does not constantly develop with equal penetration and sagacity. There is great reason to imagine that, for want of the assistance of certain principles of natural and political law, he would not have enjoyed the power of entering upon, and proceeding, with a pre-eminence like that of Thucydides, through the recital of either the war of Peloponnesus, or some memorable incident of a similar complexion.

" And, here, Theodosius! let us pause a moment. Previous to our remarks concerning those different kinds of history which call, of course, for different abilities, permit me to take the liberty of asking you whether you have engaged in the preparatory studies with which no excellent historian can possibly dispense? Have you turned your close attention to natural law? If you have not traced out the origin of public power in society, and the duties of man in his capacity of citizen and magistrate; if you remain ignorant of the reciprocal laws and duties of nations towards each other, acquaint me by what rule you mean to form a judgement of either the justice or the injustice of those enterprises which you select as subjects for your history. If an intestine broil should break out within the state, between the monarch and his people, you must, if not endued with this important knowledge, decide upon it in complaisance to vulgar prejudices; and favourite errors would press upon your mind with all the force of an established truth. You would tell us, with Father Orleans, that, *when we consider the power of the Kings of England, we discover that none is more absolute and more arbitrary, because it is founded upon the right of conquest.* From this first absurdity, reduced to principle, is it not natural that a false, ridiculous, and dangerous doctrine should spread itself through all the pages of your history. You will disgust all readers of enlightened understandings, whether they consider you as practising the abject arts of flattery, or lost in ignorance. All others you would deceive: and history, which Cicero styles *Magistra Vitæ*, would lead us into those errors which it should teach us to avoid. To readers possessed of little penetration (and, under this class, may we rank at least the generality of mankind) you would become the more a dangerous guide, as having written in a pleasing style, and scattered through your history some common-place remarks concerning trifling and domestic manners. I call them trifling and domestic; because, without the aid of natural law, it is not possible to rise to such a point as to discover what are the duties of a citizen, and a magistrate; and what those great and finished virtues of which the name is scarcely known to us, and which we are almost accustomed to consider as chimeras. Indeed, Theodosius! it is a shameful waste of time so to write History as to convert it into poison: like Strada, who, sacrificing the dignity of the Low-Countries to that of the court of Spain, invites their natives to a  
state



state of slavery; and thus makes preparations for the progress and the establishment of despotism. Could we rely upon this historian, we should conceive that Philip the Second enjoyed an actual right to trample under foot all ancient laws, all treaties, and all conventions with his subjects, because *he held his crown from GOD!* Thus, did this dangerous casuist sentence the Low Countries to bear with patience the destruction of their privileges, and the most barbarous oppression, rather than plunge into the guilt of sacrilegious disobedience?

"I know not whether I am mistaken; but it appears to me that, either to this ignorance of natural law, or to the abject disposition of the majority of the historians of the present age, which, driving them into a rebellion against the feelings of their conscience, has forced them to flatter princes, we owe the disgusting insipidity of their writings. Why is Grotius superior to such authors as these? Because he has investigated to their lowest depth the laws and duties of society; and, therefore, do we trace in him the elevation and the energy of the ancients. I seize with eagerness; I could devour his History of the Low-Countries; whilst the work of Strada, whose abilities were, probably, more equal to the power of entering into fine relations, is always dropping from my hands. Let me give you another example, from Buchanan, of the forcible effect of that study concerning which I am now speaking to you. An attentive and well digested perusal of his learned and sagacious production, intitled *De jure regis apud Scotos*, will not leave us in the least surprized that this writer (the only person amongst his contemporaries who knew how to think, as Locke has since thought, and, doubtless, in imitation of Buchanan) should have composed an history which presses forward with that air of grandeur, liberality, and elevation which easily inclines us to excuse those defects of order and congruity with which, otherwise, we might reproach him.

"To this study of the natural must we join that of the political law. But, give me leave to observe to you that the political law is absolutely twofold. It first arises upon the basis of those laws which nature has established in order to procure for human-kind that happiness of which she renders them susceptible. These laws are, like herself, invariable; and fortunate would it have proved for all the world, if they had been religiously obeyed. The second political law originates from those passions which have seduced our reason; and the fruits of this law are merely transient advantages, too often subject to a variety of painful and unfortunate interruptions. It is necessary, at the outset, to examine into the principles of the first law, which will serve us as the standard by which we may discover what states are either more or less removed from that point of consummation which it becomes them to endeavour to obtain. But, this development will elude our search, unless we deeply study the various emotions of the human heart, and observe with strictest care the manner in which we feel ourselves affected by the objects that surround us. This study is too difficult and tedious to inspire us with hopes of making in it a successful and extensive progress, unless we

borrow succours from the philosophers of a former age. In *their* writings, we shall perceive what is the happiness to which it certainly behoves us to aspire. We shall discover the nature of those means by which the most enlightened law-givers have striven to establish this happiness in their republics."

A little further he observes, that "the tasteless historian is either a pedant, eager to throw out his stock of erudition in all its pompous colourings, and fearful lest a single thought should not come forward to display its lustre; or one of those ignorant philosophers whom we perpetually meet with, and who do not suffer any opportunity to escape them of making tedious remarks on obvious and common truths. But, I allude, Theodosius! to a Thucydides, a Xenophon, a Livy, a Sallust, and a Tacitus: and I ask for such historians as these, who knew the human heart; were not strangers to the nature of the passions; and possessed too elevated and properly restrained a genius to misapply their powerful and enlightened talents. *My* historian, Theodosius! must be thoroughly capable of composing a treatise on either moral, political, or natural law. But, upon this treatise do I positively forbid him to enter. Let him remain satisfied with giving to an intelligent reader the materials. The present point is not to determine with what sagacity, what temperance and art an historian ought so to avail himself of his philosophy as not to fatigue whilst he endeavours to instruct. We shall reach this, if you desire it, in the sequel. Permit me, now, to expatiate still more concerning that preliminary knowledge so indispensibly requisite for an historian who wishes to become the author of a serviceable work.

"To understand this political system of the passions respecting which I have already spoken, we must study their play, their motions, their progress and each of their peculiar characters. We must learn how they unite together; how, mutually, they assist each other; how they intermingle; how, in some measure, they avail themselves of their respective workings; and how, at times, they lie concealed, in order to burst forth with a redoubled vigour! In consequence of this study, do we discover that the present is pregnant with the future; and that even the slightest abuses may prove the seeds of the most pernicious disorders. All good minds will become wedded to the opinions of historians like these whom I have classed under my own description: historians who will not entertain the most distant idea of intruding themselves upon you with those insipid and dull reflections that betray the man, who, looking only at the superficies of things, is astonished at events which must necessarily have come to pass."

Let us now hear the elegant and animated Hayley, in his third epistle, where he thus describes the character of the accomplished historian, the laws of history, the style and importance of choosing a suitable subject:

"Far other views the liberal Genius fire,  
Whose toils to pure historic praise aspire;

Nor Moderation's dupe, nor Faction's brave,  
 Nor Guilt's apologist, nor Flattery's slave:  
 Wise, but not cunning; temperate, not cold;  
 Servant of Truth, and in that service bold;  
 Free from all bias, save that just controul  
 By which mild Nature sways the manly soul,  
 And Reason's philanthropic spirit draws  
 To Virtue's interest, and Freedom's cause;  
 Those great ennoblers of the human name,  
 Pure springs of power, of happiness, and fame!  
 To teach their influence and spread their sway!  
 The just historian winds his toilsome way;  
 From silent darkness, creeping o'er the earth,  
 Redeems the sinking trace of useful worth;  
 In Vice's bosom marks the latent thorn,  
 And brands that public pest with public scorn.  
 A lively teacher in a moral school!  
 In that great office steady, clear, and cool!  
 Pleas'd to promote the welfare of mankind,  
 And by informing meliorate the mind!  
 Such the bright task committed to his care!  
 Boundless its use; but its completion rare.

"Critics have said 'Tho' high th' historian's charge,

His law's as simple as his province large;  
 Two obvious rules ensure his full success—  
 To speak no falsehood; and no truth suppress:  
 Art must to other works a lustre lend,  
 But History pleases, howsoe'er its penn'd."

"It may in ruder periods; but in those,  
 Where all the luxury of learning flows,  
 To Truth's plain fare no palate will submit,  
 Each reader grows an epicure in wit;  
 And Knowledge must his nicer taste beguile  
 With all the poignant charms of attic style.  
 The curious scholar, in his judgement choice,  
 Expects no common notes from History's voice;  
 But all the tones that all the passions suit,  
 From the bold trumpet to the tender lute:  
 Yet if thro' Music's scale her voice should range,  
 Now high, now low, with many a pleasing change,  
 Grace must thro' every variation glide,  
 In every movement Majesty preside:  
 With ease not careless, though correct not cold;  
 Soft without languor, without harshness bold.

"Though Affectation can all works debase,  
 In language, as in life, the bane of grace!  
 Regarded ever with a scornful smile,  
 She most is censur'd in th' Historic style:  
 Yet her insinuating power is such,  
 Not e'en the Greeks escap'd her baleful touch;  
 And hence th' unutter'd speech, and long harangue,

Too oft, like weights, on ancient story hang.  
 Less fond of labour, modern pens devise  
 Affected beauties of inferior size:  
 They in a narrower compass boldly strike  
 The fancied portrait, with no feature like;  
 And Nature's simple colouring vainly quit,  
 To boast the brilliant glare of fading wit.  
 Those works alone may that blest fate expect  
 To live thro' time, unconscious of neglect,  
 That catch, in springing from no sordid source,  
 The ease of Nature, and of Truth the force.

"But not e'en Truth, with bright expression  
 grac'd,  
 Nor all Description's powers, in lucid order plac'd,  
 Not even these a fond regard engage,  
 Or bind attention to th' Historic page,  
 If distant tribes compose th' ill-chosen theme,  
 Whose savage virtues wake no warm esteem;

Where Faith and Valour spring from Honour's  
 grave,

Only to form th' assassin and the slave."

The Abbé then very ably and very largely insists on the necessity of the knowledge of the passions, in order to form a complete historian. His arguments are interspersed with commendations on Livy, Sallust, Tacitus, and Thucydides, and censures on Voltaire.

The following is his character of Livy, and his opinions of the times in which he wrote:

"Even at the first glance upon the design of Livy, at the commencement of his history, may we form a judgement of that plan which it is the duty of the writer of a general history to pursue. Without sacrificing our attention (observes this author) to the fables with which our ancestors, untutored and superstitious, imagined that they could cast a brighter lustre upon their origin, let us limit our researches to an acquirement of the knowledge of the manners, of the laws whether civil or military, and of those illustrious men who have extended the empire of the republic over the whole world; let us examine how our prosperity has deluded and conducted us to that fatal point where, sinking underneath the weight of our avarice and ambition, we have lost even the power which is necessary to correct and to amend us.

"In my opinion, the plan of Livy embraces all which any conscientious reader is entitled to expect from an historian. What can he desire more? To neglect a single one of these objects were to deprive history of its interesting force, and, in fact, to cover it with obscurities. If no previous elucidations concerning the nature of public morals, and those laws which form a political constitution are placed before me, in vain do you supply me with a state of facts which ought, certainly, to be made known. I cannot unravel their causes; and I must attribute the success by which they were accompanied intirely to the men invested with the chief command. I must believe that chance alone produced them, as, formerly, it produced Hannibal amongst the Carthaginians, and Charlemagne amongst the French; for both of these personages were prodigies in their nation. Instead of holding up before me a large and finished piece, with a variety of fine resemblances, you shew me (if I may be allowed the expression) a little and contracted portrait. I feel no interest in attending to it; truth flies from my grasp; and I no longer find within the page of history that instruction which I endeavoured to derive from it. If, on the contrary, you make known to me the manners and the government of a republic, I perceive that the illustrious men who fill the scene are the work of the laws. I attach myself to that republic which has communicated to them its genius; the passions of my mind grow more and more interested; and my reason becomes enlightened, without an effort for the attainment of additional information. Livy, to whom this truth was fully known (a truth of which I cannot mention my discovery without acknowledging



ing the great pleasure that I have received from the perusal of his works) Livy follows with the utmost care all the establishments of the Romans. He never passes by in silence any of those laws which can effect an alteration in the interests and the passions of either the patricians or the people. I perceive, forming themselves, as it were, under my own eyes, the morals, the habits, the manners, the customs, and the public law of the republic. I discover the mixture of the virtues and the vices which are at war against each other, but with unequal force. Every citizen, who, by the contagion or the purity of his example, either shakes or strengthens the pillars of the constitution, is brought before me, so that, as far as I am able to reflect upon the facts submitted to my judgement, I see resulting from them the prodigious fortune of the Romans. Some vices (for example, avarice and ambition) to the destruction of which the laws were not equal, which generally obey the love of glory and of the country, but which, from time to time, rush forward, as in sudden gusts, announce to me what, one day, will prove their empire. I can foretell that they will seize on public power, and oblige freedom to give place to tyranny.

"A well-written general History will enable us to discover, from the conduct of a people when they form themselves into a collective body, and from the efforts which they make to reach the object of their views, in what manner they would enjoy their good fortune. Even amidst the representation of this enjoyment, the historian should enable me to predict the causes of their fall. Then, every thing becomes unravelled of its own accord; facts naturally arise from facts; and this it is which constitutes, in general histories, the art of preparing the mind for the expected recital of the several events. The narrative which the historian is not obliged to interrupt by necessary elucidations runs forward with rapidity, is never languishing, and always draws the reader to its side. But, this is too much, Theodosius! to expect from the author who has not completed himself, by the studies concerning which I have spoken, for the arduous task of writing history. To succeed, he must have long contemplated the nature of his work; he must have carefully discussed it through all its parts, and have acquired the power of comprehending the whole at the single glance of an eye.

"I am perfectly convinced that no nation presents to us so fine a picture as the Roman republic; but, let me beseech you to distinguish between the subject-matter on which the historian labours, and the dexterity with which he manages and works it to its proper form. The Barbarians who laid the foundation of our modern states were, certainly, as good as the banditti to whom Romulus threw open an asylum. The one witnessed the destruction of their power, before they had an opportunity of giving it solidity and strength; and the others founded several states which still exist; and, true at least to one principle of their primitive barbarism, imagine, in the midst of pride and imbecility, that they supply the world with a model for the most perfect code of politics. Why are not such histories interesting to the reader? Because the wri-

ters have constantly neglected to furnish us with even the slightest information concerning the manners, the customs, and the public laws of these barbarians. Thus, am I doomed to follow in the track of an historian who does not know himself the paths through which he wanders. Fatigue soon overpowers me, in the midst of those battles, those wars, and those victories which he enumerates without once insinuating to what these scenes of bloodshed and destruction ultimately lead. If, for instance, he had explained to me the character of the army under Clovis, the spirit of liberty which they brought from Germany, and the submission to slavery which they found amongst the Gauls, it seems probable that I should have traced out, as the result, the whole of what has happened, and that I should have marked the progress of despotism in the one, and of servitude in the others. I should, indeed, have placed but little value upon the nation the particulars of whose proceedings were brought before me; but I must have admired the wisdom and the dexterity of the historian. Though not approving, I, doubtless, should have pitied; and even this interesting circumstance would have precluded me from fatigue. My understanding would have become enlightened, and, perhaps, I should not have felt less pleasure from discovering how a people can remain in an eternal infancy than from laying open all the secret springs which assisted in the elevation of the Roman grandeur.

"Recollect how Livy, at the commencement of his history, excites the curiosity of the reader, and challenges his attention. *Res Romana quæ ab exiguis profecta initiis, eo creverit, ut jam magnitudine laboret sua.* I take a pleasure in considering and measuring that immense interval between Rome, in her infancy, and Rome, the mistress of the world. On these accounts, I feel an interest in every little occurrence which is related to me concerning Romulus and his successors. Nothing as yet points out the *primitiæ*, the first fruits of a great empire; but, fortunately for the Romans, Tarquin renders himself odious, and is expelled. The historian awakens my attention and my curiosity by reminding me, that not until the time of Tarquin would liberty prove to established as that the citizens should cease to pervert it to an improper use. These expressions prepare me for the grandeur and the fall of the Republic. These are the great objects of my investigation. I read with eager pleasure the recital of the first wars of the Romans against the Æqui, the Volsci, the Tuscans, and the Samnites; and of the perpetual dissensions between the Patricians and the Plebeians. Why? Because I perceive a people who, amidst their enterprizes and their skirmishes, apparently but of slight importance, acquire great virtues and great talents, prepare themselves for more elevated achievements, and approach, however slowly, that point to which their manners, or rather their form of government, invite them. When you observe the immense materials of a vast edifice collected all together, you will consider them with pleasure, because your imagination will anticipate what is to follow; will call u the perspective

perspective view of that magnificent palace for the elevation of which the great architects are preparing. All this is applicable to the Roman History, by Livy; and whensoever, Theodosius! you meet with readers who pretend that his first decad is inferior to the rest, conclude that they are actually incapable of *properly* perusing histories: and that they cannot see in the event before them the nature of that which is to follow.

"This unity of action and of interest, so strongly recommended to the Epic poet, if he means that we should actually become a kind of parties concerned in all the enterprizes of his hero, is not less necessary for the historian: for it is founded even upon the nature of the human mind which cannot employ itself on several objects at the same time, but must divide its attention, and consequently feel a less animated impression, grow tired, perplexed, disgusted, and, at length, derive no benefit whatsoever from its application. Homer makes me interested in the return of Ulysses to Ithaca; and Virgil inspires me with an earnest anxiety for the establishment of Æneas in Italy. They never forget that this is the great end of their poem, and, in order to rivet my attention they frequently recur to it. So, the historian should never suffer me to lose sight of that point to which he has promised to conduct me. Then history becomes a kind of epic poem. It proceeds to its great mark through those impediments which are opposed against it by passions and the events of fortune. The Gauls in burning Rome, and Pyrrhus and Hannibal in Italy supply the place of the marvellous in Homer and in Virgil, and affect me not less for the fate of the Romans than Juno and Neptune affect me for the fate of Æneas and Ulysses."

Of Livy thus speaks Mr. Hayley, after mentioning Sallust:

"Of mightier spirit, of majestic frame,  
With powers proportion'd to the Roman fame,  
When Rome's fierce eagle his broad wings unfurl'd,  
And shadow'd with his plumes the subject world,  
In bright pre-eminence that Greece might own,  
Sublimer L I V Y claims th' historic throne;  
With that rich eloquence, whose golden light  
Brings the dull scene distinctly to the sight;  
That zeal for truth, which interest cannot bend,  
That fire, which Freedom ever gives her friend.  
Immortal artist of a work supreme!  
Delighted Rome beheld, with proud esteem,  
Her own bright image, of Colossal size,  
From thy long toils in purest marble rise.  
But envious Time, with a malignant stroke,  
This sacred statue into fragments broke;  
In Lethe's stream its nobler portions sunk,  
And left Futurity the wounded trunk.  
Yet, like the matchless, mutilated frame,  
To which great A N G E L O bequeath'd his name,  
This glorious ruin, in whose strength we find  
The splendid vigour of the sculptor's mind,  
In the fond eye of Admiration still  
Rivals the finish'd forms of modern skill.

The Abbé next to Livy describes Grotius, of whom he speaks in terms of high commendation. Then Tacitus is brought forward, and his merits are

pourtrayed with great accuracy. He seems to *feel* very nicely both his beauties and his errors. Then Daniel, Mezarai, Mariana, and Buchanan, and other historians of various nations are examined. Among these the following admirable character is drawn for Herodian:

"In my opinion, Herodian, one of the most judicious historians of antiquity, appears to have adopted the rule which is the subject of our remarks. You must recollect that he has chosen that celebrated epoch, when the misfortunes of the empire, kept back by some good princes, from Trajan down to Commodus, resumed their course with all the violence of a torrent of which the waters, in vain repressed, break loose and overflow the banks intended to confine them. You will perceive Commodus embarrassed by the reputation of his father. You would even believe that this unprincipled miscreant is struggling to escape from his own wickedness; but soon encouraged by the vices of his nation, this abominable monster must become regretted, like Nero, of whom he will have proved too much the imitator. Then it is that the military democracy which might have been foreseen, even in the time of Tiberius, arises to its full excess; for the legions begin to conclude that, as *they* constitute the power of the empire, *that* empire is their property. The Prætorian Cohorts at length familiarise themselves to these ambitious thoughts, and put the empire up at auction. Stimulated by *their* example, every army is determined to choose (and does, in fact, appoint) an Emperor, who (we may truly say) is only suffered to be their chief magistrate. With what a happy brevity does Herodian relate those facts on which our modern historians would have lavished whole volumes, without conveying to their readers one particle of instruction! Amidst civil wars, I perceive some traces of the ancient ideas, and the seeds of those revolutions which are to follow the present dissensions. Severus, who, dreads Albinus, advances him to the empire, that he may gain time and opportunity, *first*, to take away the life of Niger, and, *next*, to turn upon Albinus, and destroy him. It is soon afterwards imagined that the most effectual means of securing the personal safety of the *Emperors* are to divide the empire; and, therefore, Antoninus reigns with Geta. Macrinus, their successor, raised his son to the dignity of Cæsar, that he might make sure of the two armies. All this is calculated to instruct me. I perceive that no art is in the policy of the passions, except the art of conforming to circumstances, and of acting in obedience to their influence. I feel my obligations to Herodian, for having prepared me to expect that revolution which must, at length, bring forward a rival against Rome, and convert the empire into two separate and independent powers."

We do not recollect that Mr. Hayley has mentioned this historian. The Abbé next mentions Dr.

Robertson,



Robertson, to whose merit we do not think that he does justice. He goes on with examining the plans proper for an *universal history*: to which task he thinks no human talents are adequate. He likewise asserts that no history can be at once agreeable and instructive, without *speeches*. These, however, he observes, should be subject to the dominion of rigid laws, the violation of which metamorphoses history into declamation.

"When you write an history, he says to his friend, let me advise you to adapt the harangues of all the personages, not only to *their* characters, but to the character of the age in which they lived. This rule, prescribed to the poets by the masters of the art, should extend equally to historians. Who could bear, in Thucydides, that Alcibiades and Nicias should both talk in the same style? In Sallust, we perceive that Marius, Cæsar, and Cato express themselves in a manner intirely different from each other. As to Livy, he seems actually to have made himself master of the several and distinct kinds of eloquence peculiar to each of those great men with whose speeches he has enriched his work; and, therefore, must we place him (with Cicero) at the head of that small number of writers of genius whose stile perpetually maintains a just affinity to the matter on which it is employed. In Livy, the subject of either Philip or Antiochus would not express himself like the citizen of a republic of Greece. The ancients carried this delicacy to the most scrupulous extremes. If Thucydides puts into the mouth of Brasidas a more long and ornamented discourse than could have been expected from a Lacedæmonian, he takes care to inform the reader that Brasidas surpassed in eloquence his fellow-citizens. The indirect harangues (which are, indeed, almost the sole harangues recurred to by the historians of this modern age) are, in their nature, cold and languishing. The ancients employ them very seldom; and, then, only either when the question turns upon affairs of less importance; or when it becomes requisite that the narrative should run on with more rapidity."

The second dialogue treats of particular histories. Their requisite object, with observations on common rules for all kinds of history.

Our ingenious author sets out with explaining the duties of those who write *particular histories*, and of the subjects proper for their choice. He illustrates his precepts by some excellent remarks on Xenophon, Cæsar, Sallust, and Plutarch, in whose praise he is lavish. Cornelius Nepos, and Suetonius follow, and receive censures, in terms at least as forcible as those in which the others were celebrated.

On Mr. Gibbon he seems unjustly severe, and on that account we shall not assist in disseminating his remarks, by transcription. As a model, except in a few instances, he proposes Sallust. He then goes on:

"Having offered to you a model *worthy of imitation*, let me put you upon your guard against the exposition of the History of Charles the Twelfth, by Voltaire. What useless remarks! Remarks which no writer who is not grossly ignorant would ever suffer to escape from him into public notice. Himself astonished at the information which he gives, he does not entertain a doubt but that the reader will be pleased with him for his erudition. But, Voltaire will suffer nothing to be lost, and throws about, with lavish hands, the whole quantity of his knowledge. Yet, of what consequence is it, when he tells me that Sweden has but two seasons; the winter and the summer? Where is the benefit which results to me from his vague accounts of the barbarous laws and savage manners of the ancient Swedes? They had preserved an influence during the revolution under Gustavus Vasa; but they were not the points for discussion in the History of Charles the Twelfth. He might have limited himself to the observations that the crown, hereditary from Vasa, and continuing secure from the intervention of any wise precautions taken by the Swedes to check the progress of arbitrary power, became despotic under the father of Charles the Twelfth; and that this prince, making an ill use of the divisions of his subjects, in order to disgrace and vilify them, was, notwithstanding, unable totally to stifle that elevation, and that grandeur of the mind, for which they stood indebted to the reign of Gustavus Adolphus. Instead of that insignificant description upon which Voltaire enters, you *must* perceive that he might have furnished his readers with a most beautiful and interesting detail, if he had foreseen that it ought to have served as the explanation of the causes of events.

"Unfortunately, Voltaire finished all his works before he found out what he actually meant to do; and what was the chief object of his literary and historical pursuits. Have you not been astonished that an historian who forgets to lay before you the real situation of Sweden, and who not foreseeing that the extraordinary character of his hero must cause a revolution in the manners and the government of the Swedes, employs his attention upon a present moment, should, afterwards, on a sudden, carry his researches into a future moment; but only to commit a fresh fault? In fact, instead of painting, in his exposition, the Czar Peter the First such as he as yet was when the war broke out, he represents him such as he appeared when disgraceful defeats (which, nevertheless, could not overwhelm him) had developed and thrown open all the resources of his genius. Hence arises an embarrassment of which certain readers have not the least perception but, which presses hard on those who are anxious rationally to account for different events. After so extremely faulty an exposition,

tion, it were wrong to expect from this writer a reasonable history. His hero would act without knowing for what cause; and the historian would follow like a fool, in the track of a fool."

We must now recommend our judicious countryman's character of Voltaire to the reader's notice. It is too long to transcribe, but may be found in the second epistle of his delightful essay on History.

Impartiality must decide in favour of Hayley. Though it should be considered, however, that he speaks of him in general as an historian, and that Mably only refers to his Charles XII.

He then points out the defects in De Cerceau's character of Rienzi, with ability; and insists very judiciously on the advantages of *order*. Nothing *new*, however, is started; but he takes an opportunity of speaking very slightly of Hume's History of the Stuarts, and Dr. Robertson's History of America. The former he represents as merely a *sketch*, and the latter as *deficient* in some particulars, and in others redundant.

The History of the Council of Trent, by Fra. Paolo, is mentioned with the praise it deserves. The censures on Voltaire also, which fill the succeeding pages, are properly introduced. The strictures on Florus and Paterculus are ingenious. Almost all the French historians, except De Vertot, are censured as well as our countrymen. The ancients are exalted, and praised with warmth, and their excellencies described with taste and genius. We shall transcribe the character of one, and then conclude. It is that of our favourite Plutarch, as the Abbé paints, in two different parts of his second dialogue:

"We have, also, some pieces of history not designed to bring before us a *particular* event, but only those celebrated men who have appeared in certain nations. Such is the interesting object which Plutarch had in view; and this historian is the most perfect model in the kind. He wants, indeed, some of those great points of knowledge, concerning which I shall incessantly speak to you, because they never were either more rare or more neglected; yet, I can grant my pardon for *any thing* to an historian who has the secret of gaining over my confidence and my friendship. If *such* a writer deceives me, it is because he actually was deceived himself. He would have shewn me the truth, if it had not escaped from his researches. Besides, the political errors of an historian will not prove either

extremely dangerous or extremely serious in their consequences, provided that his moral system should be at once irreprehensible and correct. But, the fact is, that were you attentively to read Plutarch, you must perceive that he puts arms into your hands with which you may contend against him. Never does he start aside, or wander from the road of nature. He dives into the abyss of the human heart; and, *there*, exploring all its secret windings and recesses, he gets possession, without efforts and without subtilty, of the seeds of either the virtues or of the vices. Never does he present to us fantastic individuals; like those unskilful historians who imagine that they degrade their *heroes*, if, sometimes, they permit them to appear as *men*. The heroes of Plutarch descend, as it were, down to a level with myself, and excite in me either an inclination or a temerity to soar up to *them*. What is the secret power by which Plutarch at once pleases and attracts me? It is that he appears less inclined to instruct me than merely to converse with me. Besides, he only places in my view either great virtues or great talents; far different in this respect, from those insipid historians who have written such a multitude of volumes containing the lives of the illustrious men of our modern times. They imagined that it was sufficient if *their* heroes possessed high dignities (the burthen of which they had not either virtues or talents to support) and they concluded that this elevation to honours and preferments *must* render them, without the aid of any other advantage, intitled to the notice of posterity. Shall I venture, upon this occasion, to trust you with my real sentiments? I think that our political constitutions, by classing the citizens in different orders, have straitened and confined their genius, and will not permit us to hope for another Plutarch."

Near the conclusion Mably says: "I should advise an historian to choose, after having meditated upon his art by studying the great models, to choose a subject suitable and adequate to his abilities. A general history requires such a multitude of different talents that it were temerity to undertake it, unless an author felt within himself that happy facility of genius, which embraces and draws together the richest sources of knowledge, and possesses the art of throwing them into the most agreeable forms and points of view. Has not the historian all those strokes of genius, all those perfections of language and of style which are to render him perpetually equal to the matter concerning which he treats, and to spread from page to page that enchanting variety, which sustains and animates the reader throughout the course of a long work? He may *instruct*, but he cannot *please*. It appears to me, that Thucydides, Sallust, and Tacitus would, in despite of all their merit, have proved tiresome in a general history of Greece and Rome. Their faculties seem infinitely less flexible than those of Livy; they appear to have possessed a more decided character, and a manner from which they could not have separated themselves without losing some portion of their merit. The great man knows his limits and never attempts to run beyond them. Having once studied the

the se  
tend a  
its im  
discove  
receive  
did an  
subject  
A nou  
separat  
to him  
of his  
his live  
miliar  
We for  
We th  
He, so  
to whic  
withou  
not ha  
and I a  
rian wi  
fions,  
the dea  
war, o  
dangere  
whole p  
are alw

We  
of pl  
Hayle  
entert

"O  
Histori  
And for  
Of both  
To win  
And for

AR  
one of  
in the

TH  
luable  
the le  
It is c  
view  
Triflin  
clude  
space  
by th  
and th  
execu  
ing le  
spicity  
words  
XIII.  
lates t  
essenti  
seem t  
and p  
harmo  
Lon



the secrets of his art, in order that he may extend and guide his genius, he gives a loose to its impulse; and even amidst his errors we discover graces, for the sake of which the former receive our pardon. Such is Plutarch. Never did an historian display more address in chusing subjects adapted to his talents and his genius. A noble simplicity, which he considers as inseparable from truth and solid worth, secures to him the confidence, or rather the friendship of his readers. We imagine, not that we read his lives, but that we enter with him into familiar conversation: and we actually hear him. We forgive him; but, why do I say forgive him? We thank him for the length of his reflections. He, sometimes, stops me to inform me of things to which I believe that I should have recurred without his assistance; but I perceive that I could not have expressed myself so ably as he has done, and I applaud myself for thinking like an historian whom I revere. We allow him his digressions, because we are not impatient to arrive at the death of his hero, as at the close of a toilsome war, or a calamitous revolution. It is extremely dangerous to attempt to imitate an historian whose graces, if I may be allowed the expression, are always the next neighbours to some defect."

We cannot withstand the temptation of presenting our readers with Mr. Hayley's elegant character of this entertaining writer:

"O blest Biography! thy charms of yore  
Historic truth to strong affection bore,  
And soft'ning Virtue gave thee as thy dower,  
Of both thy parents the attractive power;  
To win the heart, the wav'ring thought to fix,  
And fond delight with wise instruction mix.

ART. XLIII. *Lectures on Rhetoric and the Belles Lettres.* By Hugh Blair, D. D. one of the Ministers of the High Church, and Professor of Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in the University of Edinburgh. 4to. 2 Vols. Cadell, Creech, &c.

(Continued from Vol. I. p. 542.)

THE extensive utility of these valuable lectures renders any apology for the length of our account superfluous. It is our wish to render the *Literary Review* at once entertaining and instructive. Trifling works are consequently excluded, in order to leave a greater space for those which attract notice by the importance of their subjects, and the able manner in which they are executed. But to resume our entertaining lecturer. Having considered *perspicuity* as it relates to the choice of words, he proceeds, in his XI. XII. and XIII. lectures, to consider it as it relates to sentences. The properties most essential to a perfect sentence, he says, seem to be the four following: clearness and precision; unity; strength; and harmony. Each of these he illustrates

LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.

First of thy votaries, peerless, and alone,  
Thy PLUTARCH shines, by moral beauty known:  
Enchanting sage! whose living lessons teach,  
What heights of Virtue human efforts reach.  
'Tho' oft thy pen, eccentrically wild,  
Ramble, in Learning's various maze beguil'd;  
'Tho' in thy style no brilliant graces shine,  
Nor the clear conduct of correct Design,  
Thy every page is uniformly bright  
With mild Philanthropy's diviner light.  
Of gentlest manners, as of mind elate,  
Thy happy genius had the glorious fate  
To regulate, with Wisdom's soft controul,  
The strong ambition of a TRAJAN's soul."

The second dialogue then concludes with some rules for rendering history alluring and delightful.

In these dialogues there will be found much amusement and much instruction. But a want of order is continually apparent. The different merits of Tacitus, Livy, and Sallust are mentioned largely, in seven or eight different places, instead of their characters being drawn to strike the reader at one view. This defect, for such it appears to us, seems to have its original, in some measure, from delivering these remarks in the form of dialogue. Of this species of composition we cannot approve, as, *in the present times*, it can scarcely be at the same time natural and entertaining.

separately, at considerable length, and with great accuracy.

Having treated of perspicuity, both in single words and sentences; and of ornament, as far as it arises from a graceful, strong, or melodious construction of words, our author, in his 14th lecture, proceeds to the consideration of figurative language, a subject which he discusses at full length, and in a very entertaining and instructive manner.

He first enquires, what is meant by figures of speech; and then gives an account of the origin and nature of figures; principally of such as have their dependance on language, including that numerous tribe, which the rhetoricians call tropes.

In his 15th, 16th, and 17th lectures,

T

he

he treats of such figures of speech as occur most frequently, and require particular attention, such as metaphor, hyperbole, personification, apostrophe, comparison, antithesis, &c.—In the 18th and 19th lectures, he considers the general characters of style, diffuse, concise, feeble, nervous, dry, plain, neat, elegant, flowery, simple, affected, vehement, &c. and gives directions for forming a proper style.

Our readers will be particularly pleased with that part of the 19th lecture, wherein our author gives the character of Tillotson's style, of Sir William Temple's, Addison's, Shaftesbury's, and Bolingbroke's. The remaining lectures of the first volume contain a critical examination of the style of some of Mr. Addison's papers in the Spectator, and of a passage in Dean Swift's treatise, entitled, *A Proposal for correcting, improving, and ascertaining the English Tongue*, in a letter addressed to the Earl of Oxford, then Lord High Treasurer. These lectures will probably be considered, and, indeed, deserve to be considered, as one of the most useful parts of our author's work. He introduces them in the following manner:

"I have insisted fully on the subject of language and style, both because it is, in itself, of great importance, and because it is more capable of being ascertained by precise rule, than several other parts of composition. A critical analysis of the style of some good author will tend further to illustrate the subject; as it will suggest observations which I have not had occasion to make, and will show, in the most practical light, the use of those which I have made.

"Mr. Addison is the author whom I have chosen for this purpose. The Spectator, of which his papers are the chief ornament, is a book which is in the hands of every one, and which cannot be praised too highly. The good sense, and good writing, the useful morality, and the admirable vein of humour which abound in it, render it

one of those standard books which have done the greatest honour to the English nation. I have formerly given the general character of Mr. Addison's style and manner, as natural and unaffected, easy and polite, and full of those graces which a flowery imagination diffuses over writing. At the same time, though one of the most beautiful writers in the language, he is not the most correct; a circumstance which renders his composition the more proper to be the subject of our present criticism. The free and flowing manner of this amiable writer sometimes led him into inaccuracies, which the more studied circumspection and care of inferior writers have taught them to avoid. Remarking his beauties, therefore, which I shall have frequent occasion to do as I proceed, I must also point out his negligences and defects. Without a free, impartial discussion of both the faults and beauties which occur in his composition, it is evident, this piece of criticism would be of no service: and, from the freedom which I use in criticising Mr. Addison's style, none can imagine, that I mean to depreciate his writings, after having repeatedly declared the high opinion which I entertain of them. The beauties of this author are so many, and the general character of his style is so elegant and inestimable, that the minute imperfections I shall have occasion to point out, are but like those spots in the sun, which may be discovered by the assistance of art, but which have no effect in obscuring its lustre. It is, indeed, my judgement, that what Quintilian applies to Cicero, "*Ille se profecisse sciat, cui Cicero valde placebit*," may, with justice, be applied to Mr. Addison; that to be highly pleased with his manner of writing is the criterion of one's having acquired a good taste in English style."

In another article we shall give our readers a general view of what is contained in the second volume of this very useful and entertaining publication.



ART. XLIV. *The Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, Vol. LXXIII. for the Year 1783. Part I. 4to. Lockyer Davis.*

THE multiplicity of objects which have lately demanded our attention has prevented our taking earlier notice of the public transactions of this learned and respectable body. This number contains sixteen papers, of which we shall give an account in the order assigned to them in the volume before us.

I. *A Letter from William Herschell, Esq. F. R. S. to Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. P. R. S.*

This letter we presented to our readers in the Magazine for December last, page 506.

II. *On the Diameter and Magnitude of the Georgium Sidus; with a description of the dark and lucid disk and periphery Micrometers.* By William Herschell, Esq. F. R. S.

(Read November 7, 1782.)

Whatever relations of astronomical discoveries proceed from the pen of Mr. Herschell must be curious and interesting. On this account we have transcribed this paper at full length, and propose to insert in this work whatever particulars transpire respect-

ing the *Georgium Sidus*. This entertaining and valuable paper will be found\* in the Astronomical department of our last number.

III. *Conclusion of the Experiments and Observations concerning the attractive Powers of the Mineral Acids.* By Richard Kirwan, Esq. F. R. S.

(Read Dec. 12, 1782.)

On this paper we have also given remarks, with an account of its contents. We then bestowed our sincere applause on its author, who, as a chemist and natural philosopher, must yield the palm, perhaps, to none, for patience of investigation, and ingenuity and accuracy, as an experimenter. As a scholar, and a man of taste in polite literature, he likewise ranks high. We wait with impatience for the further experiments which he seems to promise, in a note on this truly valuable paper, the account of which will be found in our Magazine for August last, page 143.

(To be continued.)

\* Page 25.

ART. XLV. *Poems by a Literary Society; comprehending original Pieces in the several Walks of Poetry.* 12mo. Nichols. 1s.

THESE poems, we are told, in a prefatory advertisement, are the productions of a society, who style themselves the Council of Parnassus. Some of the pieces rank above the poetical trifles of the day. We shall select two or three, that our readers may decide for themselves: for the last paragraph of the preface seems to teach us to expect future numbers of this nature, if this specimen meets with approbation.

On reading Dr. BEATTIE's HERMIT\*.

"AH! when shall Spring visit the mouldering urn!

Or when shall day dawn on the night of the A sage to set evening continued to mourn,

On the side of a hill, at the mouth of his cave;

'Till thro' the tall forest the zephyrs that breathe,

The nightingale's song on y neighbouring spray,

The torrent that murmur'd his grotto beneath;

Soft slumber impos'd 'till the dawn of the day.

'Twas rapture that rose on his mind as he 'woke,  
He sung, and y nightingale ceas'd to complain—  
Each gloomy idea his bosom forsook—

The lark's lofty notes were attun'd to his strain:

"'Tis day! and the prospect is dreary no more,

The shadows of night that envelop'd the view

Are fled, and the skies to religion restore

A pledge that the morning of life shall renew."

"S. C———."

SONNET to Dr. JOHNSON.

"JOHNSON! whose art instructs y poet's lyre,

My Muse enraptur'd hails thy splendid page,

Where ev'ry beauty, ev'ry grace conspire,

And lofty Genius mix'd with judgement sage.

"Still may y judgement guide y improving age,

That genius still its noblest efforts raise;

So shall no scribbler urge the critic's rage,

No tuneful Muse e'er mourn neglected lays.

"In vain would sons of Envy mock thy power,

The fame they seek despise with wayward pride;

From thee they gain the flutter of an hour,

But for thy rays that little hour deny'd:

As planets to that sun their lustre owe,

Whose blaze obscures the beam their borrow'd

lights bestow. "W. V. M."

T 2

In

\* The author of this slight addition had not previously read a late edition, in which the original gloomy tendency was very elegantly obviated.

In some of these poems, we find the name of *Apollo*. Why is he not suffered to rest, and why did not this society chuse some other title than the Council of Parnassus? Parnassus and Poetry are no

longer allied. We wish success to these meetings, as they may cherish talents, which might otherwise have been lost; but let their *name* be changed.

ART. XLVI. *Remarks on the French and English Ladies, in a Series of Letters; interspersed with various Anecdotes, and additional Matter, arising from the Subject.* By John Andrews, LL. D. 8vo. Longman.

(Concluded from Volume I. page 552.)

WE have already given an account of the contents of the first eight letters in this collection; we shall now conclude our review of these remarks, in which, if there be sometimes room for censure, there will be found more frequently opportunities for bestowing applause.

LETTER IX. "On the Disparity of Notions on Love and Marriage in France and in England."

This letter contains several just observations, with respect to the customs of immuring girls in nunneries, and marrying them to men to whose dispositions and sentiments they are perfect strangers.

The education of the female may not have been wholly neglected, but practice is requisite, as well as theory, for a woman who is to become a wife, a mother, and the mistress of a family.

LETTER X. "On the French Nunneries. Story of two young Ladies."

Dr. A.'s account of the French nunneries is as follows:

"I will begin by observing that they are amazingly numerous throughout all France; Paris alone contains seventy.

"There are in that kingdom upwards of fifteen thousand monasteries and convents, of which about the half are appropriated to women.

"Dissertations without end have been made on the utility and inutility of such foundations. Men of philosophic minds, who consider things merely as conducive to the temporal welfare of human society, universally agree in reprobating them as the pest of mankind, on the footing they have been during so many centuries.

"It cannot be denied, that most of these institutions had their birth in the ages of ignorance and superstition: this alone, with many, is a sufficient argument to condemn them without hesitation.

"But as these ages have also produced some establishments beneficial to society, it were unjust and rash to level one's indignation promiscuously at whatever originated in those times.

"Motives of piety and religion were almost always the causes of their foundation: though men were very much misguided in general on these occasions, yet sometimes it happened that they acted very properly, and instead of being

censurable, were truly the benefactors of the public.

"Among those few religious institutions that merit applause, the Trinitarians and Charitable Brethren, among the men, and the Ursulines and Charitable Sisters, among the women, are perhaps the only that ought to be retained, as of real utility to the state; were all the others suppressed, without or with very little exception, it would be a highly meritorious deed in those who could effect it.

"Those two orders among the men have certainly a most humane and laudable aim in view. The first is employed in the redemption of those Christians who have been made captives by the infidels, and are detained in slavery at Constantinople, in Turkish Asia, and among the piratical states on the coast of Barbary.

"The employment of the Charitable Brethren is still more fatiguing and laborious: their profession is to attend the sick: to this intent their convents are in fact hospitals, wherein poor people, who are unable to take care of themselves at home, receive gratis every help and comfort they can wish for. This may truly be called Christian charity.

"The institute of the Charitable Sisters is formed precisely on the model of the Charitable Brethren; they perform the same duties to the women which the others do to the men.

"The generality of the other orders, both of men and women, might certainly be very well dispensed with; they contribute to thin countries of their inhabitants, without rendering them any service which they might not have done much better by remaining in the world.

"If good policy militates against the seclusion of men from public life, it certainly must oppose, with much more reason, the incarceration of women.

"Men, though pent up in solitude, may still, in some measure, not be wholly lost to the state; they often spend their lives in speculations, from which much benefit may be reaped: they cultivate literature and the sciences. Had it not been for the inhabitants of monasteries, during the Gothic ages, what would have become of Greek and Roman learning?

"In this point of view, the total extirpation of monastics is not desirable. There are many individuals, of a solitary, contemplative disposition, who delight in study and in literary occupations; and who may become very useful members of the community, though they are not inclined to mix in the bustle and business of active life. Witness our own universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

"A moderate number of houses for the reception and maintenance of such individuals will never prejudice the state, provided that a strict examination



examination is made of the talents and pretensions of those who desire admittance. The two places last mentioned are proofs of this, and may serve as no improper models.

"But nothing of this sort can be alledged in favour of those receptacles, wherein so many women are buried alive, and absolutely lost to the world.

"The purposes of their retreat from mankind are to dedicate their lives to prayer and pious contemplations, and to avoid those temptations to which they would have been exposed, had they remained in the world at large.

"But who does not see that if these arguments were valid, we ought all of us to fly to convents and monasteries? No person has a greater right to take refuge there than another. We are all bound to submit to the chances and dangers accruing to morals from social intercourse: true virtue consists in combating and overcoming them, and not in flying from a scene of action, wherein we are equally obliged to act our part with the rest of our fellow-creatures.

"But let us not be deceived by false pretences. Motives of piety do often, undoubtedly, conduct women into convents; but it is, on the other hand, no less indubitable that motives of another kind are powerfully conducive in sending females to these places.

"Pride and avarice, those great perverters of human nature, operate most forcibly in favour of these institutions.

"When a noble family happens to multiply beyond the means it possesses of settling its progeny in a state of grandeur and affluence, the first idea that occurs, is to dispose of the females in a convent.

"Hence those places are so plentifully stocked with unhappy young women of good families, who may with great propriety be denominated the supernumeraries of ambition. Their residence in the world would necessarily diminish the fortunes of those who are destined to remain in it, and to whose convenience they are so often sacrificed in the most unrelenting manner.

"It were not, perhaps, uncharitable to assert, that as many nuns are made among the great, from this base and mere worldly motive, as from views of religion."

The story with which this letter concludes we shall lay before our readers at length, in the miscellaneous department of some future Magazine.

LETTER XI. "On the Education in French Nunneries." The inhabitants of nunneries, we are informed by the Doctor, are literally worse than prisoners in England; for, besides their confinement, they are subject to every cruelty which their superiors choose to inflict.

The age appointed for a girl to *take the veil* is fourteen. The nuns and abbesses represent to them in splendid colours the enjoyments of a monastic

retirement, and the horrors and dangers to which the world may expose them. So true is it, that companions in misfortune are an alleviation. Those who are educated with a view of spending their lives in a convent are seldom suffered to stir out, but are employed in reading books of devotion.

Dr. Andrews disapproves of nunneries in a very sensible and rational manner, even as seminaries of education, and justly condemns the idea of secluding females from society. He considers it as equally indefensible on every account, and starts some very entertaining remarks on this subject.

LETTER XII. "On the various orders of Nuns established in France."

This letter contains information, we shall, therefore, extract some part of it:

"I shall begin by observing, as a general rule, that there is hardly a species or denomination of monks or friars that has not its counterpart in some female institution of the same sort, allowing for the necessary differences which must, by the laws of decorum, take place between the two sexes.

"The most ancient and most numerous of female orders, is that of the Benedictine ladies. It is of equal date with the monks of the like appellation; which commenced in the middle of the sixth century in Italy. It spread itself in a short time over Europe, and is esteemed the richest of any female order. There are many considerable abbeys of these ladies in France, the principal income of which is held, in a manner of commendam, by ladies of the first distinction, sometimes by princesses of the blood royal.

"In opposition, as it were, to the Benedictine and other monastic ladies, who enjoy large revenues, and live in much elegance, there is an institute of a nature entirely different: its intention is not only to remove women out of public society, but to treat them in the most mortifying manner a penitential disposition could have devised.

"They are denied every convenience and comfort of life. The softness and delicacy of the sex, instead of being a protection from needful austerity, seems, on the contrary, to have been considered, by the superstitious founders of this unhappy order of females, as affording an additional facility in contriving ways and means to render their existence miserable, and to excite their sincerest wishes for a speedy dissolution.

"Whoever is acquainted with the poor Clares, as they are very justly denominated, will acknowledge this description to be true.

"It is strange that young innocent women, whose morals are irreproachable, should thus become the dupe of religious zeal, or rather, indeed, absurdity, and shut themselves up in houses

of correction, as it were, to do penance for offences which they never committed.

"But is it not more strange, that in a civilized country, in a polite nation, and in an enlightened age, such extravagancies should not only be tolerated, but even encouraged, and held out as meritorious to human nature, and highly acceptable to the deity!

"The primitive severity of this institution was so excessive, that Pope Urban the Fifth, a man of learning and humanity, thought it necessary to offer a mitigation to such of the nuns as would accept of it; which numbers did accordingly, and have since formed a particular branch of that order: but many still adhere to their ancient strictness, to the surprise much more than the edification of the sensible part of mankind.

"About two centuries ago, while France was torn by civil dissensions, and the protestant party maintained its cause with equal vigour and success, some zealous monks and nuns of different orders took a determination to reform the abuses that had, through remissness and the iniquity of the times, gained footing among them.

"This they did by way of atoning in some measure for the general depravity of the age; and to set an example to the world of a total detachment from those pursuits that were inconsistent with a monastic life.

"They entered upon this business with a warmth and earnestness that astonished their contemporaries. They not only abstained from the eating of flesh, which is still the practice in many convents, but they even refrained from the use of wine: this latter regulation, however, did not last, as it was found too much for nature to bear in the midst of so many other austerities.

"The nuns who have embraced this rigorous system of reformation are called the Feullantines; and though not altogether so strict a class as the poor Clares, are next noted for their severity of living.

"After laying before you the ridicule and absurdity of some female institutions, we may now proceed to the review of others that are of benefit to society.

"I have in a preceding letter mentioned the charitable sisters; which is doubtless a most laudable and exemplary vocation, worthy of all possible encouragement, and deserving of the highest remuneration, if those who dedicate themselves to it sought any other end than the conscientious discharge of the duties they have undertaken to perform.

"To the praise of the French women, this institution is very much diffused throughout the kingdom. There is no considerable town without an hospital; and there is hardly any hospital without some of these worthy women to attend it.

"Next in utility are the Ursulines, whose profession is to teach at free cost the female children of the poorer sort. They also are very numerous and very deservedly respected.

"There arose in France during the last century, and in the reign of Lewis the Fourteenth, another institution equally beneficial.

"Two houses were founded for the reception

of women of ill fame. The one was for those whose confinement was involuntary; the other for such as were desirous of withdrawing themselves from their vicious courses. They were both properly endowed and regulated, and have been found of essential service to the community. They have proved the happy means of saving from misery and wretchedness of every kind, a multitude of those inferior victims of prostitution, whose lives are necessarily a scene of perpetual horrors, and whose condition affords them nothing but continual causes of affliction and repentance.

"As the memory of individuals who have been useful to society is intitled to notice and respect, it is not just to pass over in silence the lady to whose piety and munificence the last institution is owing. This is more especially due to her, as her conduct on this occasion was attended by some circumstances that render it peculiarly remarkable.

"The name of this celebrated lady was Madame de Miramion: she was of noble extraction, and had acquired great reputation in her youth by her beauty, virtue, and accomplishments. She married into a very illustrious family, and became a model of conjugal perfection. Her husband dying while she was young, she was sought and courted by men of the first rank and fashion; but having previously determined never again to marry, their courtship and assiduities were ineffectual.

"Among the many suitors whom she refused, was the famous Count Bussi Rabutin, so well known by his wit, and his imprisonment in the Bastille, for the liberties he took in his writings with some great personages in the court of Lewis the Fourteenth.

"He had conceived a violent passion for Madame de Miramion. As she testified no approbation of him, and repulsed his warmth with coldness and indifference, his pride overcame his reason: he carried her off by main force, thinking thereby to exclude all his rivals, and to compel her to accept of his hand. But this act of rashness did not succeed: she remained inexorable; and he was obliged to relinquish his prize.

"When she had delivered herself from this impetuous lover, she openly declared her resolution to resist all solicitations of this nature; and to discard all persons who should address her to that effect.

"She then made a vow of chastity; and invited as many other ladies as she knew to be charitably disposed to co-operate with her, and employ their fortune in relieving from distress those unhappy young women who had been guilty of leading an irregular life. She sought them out industriously throughout all places, and commissioned a variety of persons to assist her in this pious work. Whenever she saw a comely young woman in want, she never failed to relieve and protect her; if inclined to marry, she made it her business to seek out a decent industrious young man to be her husband; and if willing to retire into a convent, she defrayed the expenses required.

"It was chiefly to beauty reduced to poverty that she extended her cares; knowing the dangers and



and temptations to which young women who are handsome and indigent, must naturally be more exposed than any others.

"In actions of this kind did this illustrious lady expend her income, at a time of life when so many others of her quality are plunged in gaieties and dissipation; and while possessed of beauties and attractions that rendered her an object of attachment and admiration to all who had the happiness of her acquaintance.

"A life and character of such exalted merit certainly deserves to be recorded, for the example and imitation of the fair sex.

"She has been copied by others. I have heard of many pious ladies, who, like her, have devoted themselves to the succour of the beautiful and unfortunate among their own sex; and who by their timely generosity have contributed to the settlement, in a comfortable manner, of many who possibly might otherwise have passed their lives in vice and scandal.

"We may dismiss the subject, by observing, that, besides the convents, and other foundations for the retirement or occupation of the sex, there are also in France other ways for women to dispose of themselves, more consistent with their wishes, and more advantageous to their interest.

"I mean those chapters of female canonessees, where young ladies of birth and interest are admitted to enjoy an elegant maintenance upon the most agreeable footing imaginable; that of being confined no longer than they think proper, and of going or residing abroad as often as they judge it necessary for the designs they may have in view.

"They are not debarred any decent pastimes that young ladies can wish for; and are at liberty to quit their abode and marry whenever they please. On changing their condition, however, they forfeit their prebend; which, as it appears by this regulation, is either perpetual or temporary according to their own option."

LETTER XIII. "On the French Devotees."

Devotees are very numerous in France, as we are here informed. In Protestant countries, women of this cast have few opportunities of showing their character. In France, however, the numerous festivals render the seasons for public displays of religion very frequent.

This is a very good letter. It contains sound sense and entertainment. But we must proceed.

LETTER XIV. "Examination of some Opinions of the French concerning their Countrywomen. Their Ideas of Royal Mistresses. Madame de Maintenon. Madame de Pompadour. Agnes Sorel. Influence and Power of the French Women. When first introduced to Court. Progress of Gallantry. Dispositions of Men towards Wo-

men, according to various Climates and Governments. Artifice and Cunning of the French Women. Instances of it."

The royal mistresses in France, it seems, are rarely favourites with the people. Among the few who have enjoyed popularity is Agnes Sorel; of whom our author gives a particular description.

Every gentleman in France has a favourite. The omnipotence of the women seems universally allowed. They are lively, ingenious, and cunning, and seldom fail in the execution of any favourite project.

In however high a style the French may write about the gallantry of former times, the present fully equal any distant period.

"It is not three centuries (says the Doctor) since women were first introduced to Court in France, upon that free and ordinary footing they are at this day. The first monarch who, by his festive disposition, and love of pleasure, invited them thither, was Francis I.

"Before his time, the resort of the ladies to Court was only occasional; such as a high festival on account of the marriage or birth of some royal or princely personage, or the rejoicings for some auspicious event.

"Whatever the occasions were, they only recurred at long intervals; and the ladies led far more retired lives than they would be pleased with at present.

"The principal occurrences that drew them from their retirements were tilts and tournaments. Here they appeared in all the splendour of the times, and here the youths of noble families had opportunities of rendering themselves acceptable in their eyes, by feats of manly prowess.

"That familiar intercourse which now so much facilitates acquaintance was then utterly unknown: it often happened, that a young nobleman or gentleman became enamoured with a young lady on the bare rumour of her charms, and never enjoyed the sight of her, except at church, or until some concourse of this kind brought her forth to public sight.

"Immured in castles and strong holds, the young ladies spent their time in domestic occupations, under the eye of their parents; they seldom stirred abroad for amusement, unless on a visit to some relation, or upon a hunting or hawking party, mounted on led palfreys, and surrounded by the dependents of the family.

"Such was the style of living that prevailed in France, not only among the younger, but even the married ladies, with few exceptions, until the commencement of the reign of the last mentioned monarch."

Our author then proceeds with remarking that the ladies of other parts of Europe were not more frequently brought

brought forward in the days of our ancestors :

" In England their appearance at Court did not become frequent until the days of Henry the Eighth, who was coeval with the above Francis.

" On their first introduction to Court in this habitual manner, much outcry was raised by the moralists of the age ; they complained of it as an infringement upon the former strictness of manners, and predicted a speedy decline of purity in morals and deportment.

" But, notwithstanding their declamations, the ladies, having got possession of this agreeable spot, were not disposed to relinquish it. The men, on the other hand, were too much pleased with their company to consent to their abscence.

" In the mean time, as the revival of literature was taking place every where, it inspired the men with more gentle and refined methods of recommending themselves to the notice of the ladies.

" Instead of breaking lances on each other's shields or armour, or un-horsing each other at jousts and tilting, they composed songs and sonnets, and sung them to the sound of lutes, and other soft instruments.

" The ladies were not backward in improving themselves in the same line : they learned to sing by more melodious rules than heretofore ; they learned to play upon virginals, and other musical instruments of more elegant invention, and softer harmony than those in former practice.

" But as a just medium, when attained, seldom remains untransgressed, the politeness and refinement which had succeeded the ancient simplicity and plainness of manners degenerated gradually into licentiousness. The respective courts of Francis and Henry exhibited some scenes of this nature.

" On the demise of this last monarch, England under the three following reigns, of his son Edward, and his daughters Mary and Elizabeth, remained within the bounds of decency in these respects.

" Neither indeed were the subsequent reigns of James and Charles the First notoriously depraved. It was not until the accession of Charles the Second, that profligacy in regard to women reared its head in a bare-faced manner, and made a considerable breach in the morals of the English nation.

" But it was far otherwise in France. The licentiousness that began in the days of Francis the First augmented fast under his successors. Henry the Second, his son, encouraged it by his own example ; and it continued to increase under his three sons and successors, Francis the Second, Charles the Ninth, and Henry the Third.

" Henry the Fourth was a prince of too much freedom in his own morals to discourage it in others. Gallantry since his time has made a rapid progress in France.

" His son, Lewis the Thirteenth, was in his person a pious and well-meaning prince : but his life, though exemplary, made no impression on his courtiers : his character was not sufficiently

respectable to gain imitators even of the virtues he had ; and he remains a strong proof, how much it is necessary that a king should have royal and princely, as well as personal good qualities, in order to be set up as an object of reverence and imitation.

" Lewis the Fourteenth was far from being a pattern of regularity. His youth was a scene of continual gallantry. Perhaps no sovereign in Europe, not even our voluptuous Charles the Second, exceeded him. His inconstancy was fixed at last, upon his becoming acquainted with Madame de Maintenon, whom he made his wife.

" Previous to this event his courtiers had a very licentious example to follow in the conduct of their matter. A great part of his reign was marked accordingly by freedom and unrestraint in female manners. Decency in behaviour and in externals was duly preserved ; but libertinism gained ground, and has lost none since his time.

" His successor, Lewis the Fifteenth, was, during a long space, a complete model of conjugal attachment ; but he was surrounded by courtiers who professed very different maxims ; he could not resist the contagion, and gave at last into a course of life with which the world is sufficiently acquainted.

" Connoisseurs in these matters, of which there are numbers in France, pretend to discover a different kind of gallantry in each of the epochs I have mentioned. I have read some and heard still more discussions upon this subject : but all I can gather is, that in proportion as the persons noted for their gallantry were either more or less refined in their education and sentiments, their connexions of this nature were attended by more or less of politeness and decorum.

" The French in general frankly allow the present æra to be the most irregular and licentious of any ; they even seem to think it is accompanied with a degree of coarseness of which they acquit their forefathers : these, in their deviations from strict virtue, did not forget an appearance of decency ; but their descendants have thrown aside both appearance and reality.

" Such is the verdict of the French themselves on the present generation."

In order to accomplish any design of consequence, the French women will bear any labour ; and such is the fertility of their invention, that their designs are seldom frustrated. The instances which are produced in this letter are to the point, and are entertaining. We would lay them before our readers, if we had not already been so copious in our extracts.

LETTER XV. " Dexterity of the French Women in obtaining an Ascendancy over the Men. Their Interference in judicial Matters. Story of a Lawyer. Talents of the French Ladies in political Intrigues. Louisa, Mary, Queens of Poland. Notions of the



the French on the Beauty of their Women. Finesses of the French Women in their Intercourse with Men. Accused of Dissimulation and Ambition. Strictures on Female Lust of Dominion. Excessive Freedom of Behaviour and Manners in the French Women. Reflections on the frequent Tours to France by the fashionable People of England."

The business of this letter is amply set forth in the contents. We shall give our reader the account of the two French queens of Poland in our author's own words:

"Among these (French women) it may not be amiss to take notice of two that eclipsed all the rest by the splendour of their destiny.

"The first was Louisa, daughter to the Duke of Nevers, a woman of sublime understanding, and most enterprising spirit. She was the admiration of the whole court of Lewis the Thirteenth, and might have commanded the homages of any man she pleased in her own country: but fate had pre-determined she should wear a crown: she became accordingly the consort of Uladisslas, the last monarch of that name in Poland; and after his demise, she married his brother and successor Casimir, the last also of his name.

"No princefs ever supported her rank with more dignity, and shewed more capacity in the conducting of the most arduous affairs. She lived at a time, and in the midst of a nation that were equally tempestuous; she had obstacles to surmount, in the execution of the many designs which she formed and brought to pass, that required the greatest talents, and the firmest perseverance: she displayed both in an extraordinary degree; and enjoyed the reputation of being a person of consummate knowledge in the art of government, as well as of a noble disposition in whatever related to her exalted station. She was no less qualified, at the same time, for the purposes of domestic happiness: chearful, witty, affable, generous, and what compleats the amiableness of her character, most tenderly beloved by both her husbands.

"The second was the no less celebrated Mary, daughter to the Marquis of Arquiën. She was maid of honour to the forementioned Louisa, who perceiving in this young lady a conformity of disposition to her own, took her into the highest favour, and distinguished her upon all occasions.

"Mary soon became an object of competition among the Polish grandees. She honoured at last with her hand Prince Radzivil, head of one of the most illustrious families in Poland.

"On this husband's decease, the great John Sobieski, at that time Grand Marshal of Poland, became her suitor. She married him, and shortly after, on his elevation to the throne, was conjointly, at the ceremonial of his coronation, crowned Queen of Poland. An honour which had not been always conferred on the consorts of

LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.

kings; but which she was adjudged worthy of receiving."

The reflections with which this letter concludes seem, on the whole, to proceed from a man of sense and observation.

LETTER XVI. "Avarice and Ambition in Men the fundamental Reasons why there is less of Gallantry in Republics than in Monarchies. The French more addicted to it than ever. French Ladies partial to Men of Merit. Anecdotes of three Ladies."

The reasons assigned for the prevalence of gallantry in monarchies are ingenious, but rather fanciful. We imagine that they might easily be controverted, but, if this were a place adapted to such a dispute, we have at present neither time nor inclination. We know that a favourite opinion is not easily resigned, and while such opinions are harmless, every man surely has a right to such an enjoyment.

The anecdotes of the three ladies are entertaining, but for them we must refer our readers to the work itself.

LETTER XVII. "Principal Causes of the Credit and Authority exercised by the French Women. The Opinion they entertain of themselves, and of the Women of other Countries. Conclusion."

In relating the causes that produce the influence of the ladies in France, Dr. Andrews seems right. The account of the treatment of females, in the different kingdoms of the continent, displays some knowledge of their customs, and some insight into human nature.

Our author thus concludes his work: "We may now take our final leave of the French ladies, by observing that, notwithstanding the defects that have been so freely mentioned, the balance of comparison between these and their many amiable qualifications greatly preponderates in their favour.

"Take them all in all, there are no women more calculated to render society happy; they possess every chief requisite for that purpose in the most eminent degree. Lively, chearful, witty, facetious, their disposition fits them naturally for company; the communicativeness of their temper, and the engagingness of their behaviour, beget reciprocal harmony, and circulate a spirit of pleasure that is the principal delight and merit of conversation.

"Qualities so acceptable and endearing cannot fail to render them in general supremely agreeable and

and prepossessing, and to cover a multitude of those failings and deficiencies that are interspersed in some parts of their character, like weeds over a beautiful garden."

In the beginning of a former article which respected this work, we said that the style did not always seem well calculated for epistolary writing. It wants, in some places, that ease, ele-

gance, and airiness, which letters require. At the same time, we most willingly acknowledge, that we have received great pleasure from the perusal of these remarks. They are often ingenious, and the stories with which they are interspersed are entertaining and well selected.

ART. XLVII. CONJECTURÆ IN STRABONEM. Edit. Amstel. 1707.

FOR these corrections the learned world is indebted to Mr. Tyrwhitt, whose talents and erudition have long placed him among the first scholars, and most acute critics of this country. These *emendations*, or as their author modestly terms them *conjectures*, are addressed to Dr. Jubb, canon of Christ's Church, Oxford, at whose request they were written.

A few copies have only been printed, for presents; with the perusal of one we have been favoured by a correspondent, and we are happy to inform the public, that Mr. Tyrwhitt will derive additional fame from this publication, and that the long expected edition of Strabo will be rendered more valuable, and more correct, from these emendations.

We shall select a few of these corrections for the entertainment of our classical readers:

"P. DXXXIII. A. Υποδεχεται δε το πλειστον τῶν ὕδατος ὁ Αἰγυρος, βαθυς καὶ ὑπὸς ὧν, ὥστε λιμναζειν· Οἰνωδης δ' ἐν ὁ τοπος ἐξ εἰκοσι σταδίων βαθειαν ὀχθὴν ὠρεχει, καὶ τὴς ἰχθυας ἀβρῶ-  
της ὡς. Casaubonus pulcherrime, pro βαθειαν ὀχθην, reposuit βαρειαν ὀσμην. Pausanias, qui receptam tueri lectionem Kuhnio videtur, de re omnino alia loquitur. V. eum, L. V. p. 386. Sed etiam pro θρωδης arenosus reponendum credo οἰνωδης, uluosus. Ab ulva enim odor talis oriri solet. Quinetiam mox reponendum credo; ἢ τε ὑπὸ τῆς τῶν Αἰγυρος, pro αἰγρῶν: quod ridiculum est scribæ erratum, de antris, quæ in hac et præcedenti pagina memorata sunt, nimium cogitantis.

"P. DLXIX. A.

Πλασμα δε καὶ το Αργος ανυδρον.

—ΘΕΩΓΙ Δ' ΑΝ ἔσσαν Αργος ΑΝΤΑ-  
ΡΟΝ.

Τῆς τε χωρᾶς κοίτης ὕψους κ. τ. λ.

"Scribendum credo; Πλασμα δε καὶ το.— Αργος ανυδρον ΕΟΝ ΑΛΑΝΑΙ  
θεσαν Αργος ΕΝΤΑΡΟΝ. Sic enim idem  
versus, quem hic, opinor, refutat Stra-  
bo, pagina proxima recte scribitur.

"P. DLXXXV. B. Καὶ τῆς ταφῆς  
συνανασκαπτοντες ευρισκον οστρακινων ΤΟ-  
ΓΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ πληθην, ὡλλα δε καὶ χαλκω-  
ματα. Testacea opera an recte τρευμα-  
τα, i. e. cælo sculpta appellantur, dubi-  
to. Quid si legamus? ΣΟΡΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ,  
urnarum sepulchralium. Talis certe vox  
a σορος non male deducatur, quanquam  
in lexicis non comparet.

"P. DXCΙ. B. Εἰτα λέγει αἰτιαν  
τῶν ἐμπλατυνεσθαι τοῖς, περὶ Αχαιῶν λο-  
γοῖς, το ἐπὶ τοσούτον αὐξήθηνας, ὥς καὶ Λα-  
κεδαίμονις ὑπερβύλλεσθαι, μὴ Αἰῖος  
γινώσκεσθαι. Scribendum credo, Α-  
ἰῖος.

"Lib. IX. p. DCXXXV. C. Scri-  
bendum est, opinor, sententia postu-  
lante; ἢ τε γὰρ μὴ ἔχων τις πᾶλλα διδοῖν  
ἀν πολλὰ, ὅ τε μὴ λαμβανὼν πολλὰ ἢ  
ἀνεχὼι πολλὰ. Vulgo ἢ τε λ.

"P. DCXLIII. D. Το μεν ἔν ἐξα-  
ρχῆς τοῖς εὐς μετῆς καὶ τῶν τῶν μαν-  
τειν. Deesse aliquid vidit Casaubonus.  
Legendum credo, καὶ τῶν (τῶν συν-  
δῶν scilicet) ΚΑΙ τῶν μαντειν.

"P. DCXLVII. B. Πλην εἰ συγγεν  
ἐβύλετο τον τε τῆς ἰσθμίας καὶ τον τῶν μύθων  
τόπον. Vett. q. τροπον. Utrumvis  
fortasse ferri posset, sed Strabonem  
scripsisse suspicor ΤΥΠΟΝ.

"P. DCLΙ. B. Reponenda est, cre-  
do, vox φησι, quæ intercudit. ἐκείσε  
γὰρ ὁ Αχιλλεύς ὑποσχέσθαι ΦΗΣΙ τῶ με-  
νοιτῆρ καταξεν τον Παιτροκλον ἐκ τῆς στρα-  
τείας ἐπανελθούτα. Sic enim Achilles,  
ap. Homerum, II. Σ 326.

Φην δε οἱ εἰς Ολοσύνῃ περικλυτον ὕδον ἀπα-  
ξείν.

Ἰλιον ἐκπερανῆα, λαχόντα τε λήϊδος αἰσαν.

"P. DCLXVII. C. Καὶ τα μετα-  
λα τῆς ποικιλῆς λῶς τῆς; Σκυλῆς, καθάπερ  
τῆς



της Καρυσίας και της ΔΕΥΚΑΔΙΑΣ.  
Vox ultima Casaubono merito suspecta  
est. Reponiposset, mutatione minima,  
ΔΕΥΚΑΔΙΑΣ, si de Leucadii marmoris  
præstantia testimonia suppeterent."

*Ex pede Herculem.* By these few  
emendations the learned reader may  
judge of the whole. Much of course

must naturally be expected from Mr.  
Tyrwhitt. The critic will find his  
expectations satisfied, and the reader,  
who peruses the authors of antiquity  
merely for amusement, will find many  
difficulties explained, and many erro-  
neous passages restored. The *Greek* is  
printed without accents.

## PHILOSOPHICAL INTELLIGENCE.

**T**HE following intelligence is taken from the papers, and as no *more*  
*certain* account has yet reached England, we offer this to our readers, as it  
appears to be authentic:

### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LYONS, JAN. 20.

"SOME malicious anti-balloonists  
(for there are a few here, as well  
as at Paris) have circulated several co-  
pies of the following epigram, which,  
however, the event has not entirely  
fulfilled:

Vont-ils lancer au-dessus du tonnerre,  
Et dominer sur l'horizon?  
Je vous jure, Messieurs, que non,  
Ils vont se trainer sur la terre.

"The aerial navigators, contrary to  
the advice of M. Pilastré du Rosier,  
mounted in the gallery of the balloon  
on the 19th, and flattered themselves  
that they should reach Paris in six  
hours; but the designs of mankind are  
often defeated by the wind. At half  
an hour after twelve, the cords which  
held the aerial machine were cut, and  
it immediately rose to the height of  
about 400 fathoms. When they were  
at this great distance from the earth,  
the balloon burst with an explosion, and  
these human birds descended much  
quicker than they wished; nevertheless  
their fall was not attended by any ma-  
terial accident, none of them being hurt  
but M. de Montgolfier, who was slightly  
wounded; but had the machine burst  
over the Rhone, or any buildings, they  
must all have inevitably perished. The  
whole scheme is, however, in all pro-

bability, put an end to by this last *conf*  
*de theatre*. Those who are of M.  
Montgolfier's party assert, that M. de  
Flesselles had informed the voyagers of  
the precise time when they were to  
return to the earth, which was twenty  
minutes, but that is merely a specious  
pretence to disguise the real state of  
the disaster."

Another account from Lyons, dated  
Jan. 19, says, "This morning the aerial  
voyagers embarked on board the Fles-  
selles, the enormous machine built  
there by way of balloon, and named  
the Flesselles, in honour of the In-  
tendant of that province. It rose in  
the sight of more than 300,000 persons,  
who filled the quays of the Rhone, &c.  
and were astonished at so majestic an  
object, to the height of 500 toises.  
The ship at first directed its course to  
the north, but at the last period of its  
elevation, meeting with a new current  
of air, retrograded to the south. The  
navigators, at this height, perceiving  
the machine become very warm, were  
afraid of its taking fire, and, therefore,  
descended not far from the theatre,  
where they had mounted. The noble  
and deliberate courage of M. Pilastré  
du Rosier has acquired him the sur-  
name of Brave."

## ROYAL SOCIETY INTELLIGENCE.

**O**N Thursday last the question con-  
cerning the office of foreign se-  
cretary, which has of late occasioned  
much party heat and debate at the

Royal Society, was finally concluded.  
In consequence of the late regulation  
of the council (made with a view to  
prevent the ordinary and philosophical  
business

business of the meeting from being disturbed by debates) that in future every motion shall be delivered in writing to the secretary, two meetings previous to its being put to the ballot, and signed by at least two members, Baron Maseres, Curfitor Baron of the Exchequer, Sir George Shuckburgh, Bart. member for Warwickshire, the Rev. Dr. Horsley, Archdeacon of St. Alban's, and several other Fellows of the Society, did, on Thursday the 29th of January, deliver a motion in writing, the purport of which was, that "it be recommended to the Council to rescind their resolution respecting the residence of foreign secretary in London, and to request Dr. Hutton to resume the same."—The question of course was agitated last Thursday: the business was opened by Baron Maseres, and seconded by Dr. Horsley. These gentlemen endeavoured to vindicate Dr. Hutton (who is Professor of Mathematics in the Royal Academy of Woolwich) from any imputation of neglect in the office of secretary. Dr. Maskelyne, the Astronomer Royal, Mr.

Maty, Mr. Poore, and others spoke on the same side.—These gentlemen were answered by a paper given in by Dr. Watson, one of the Council, and which was read by the Secretary. This paper, which contained the reasons which had induced the Council to come to the resolution in question, was followed by Dr. Hutton's defence, which was likewise read by the Secretary; and the Doctor himself, who was present, rose to explain different parts of it. He was replied to in a very able speech of considerable length by Mr. Anguish (Master in Chancery, Accomptant General, and one of the Commissioners of Accompts) who vindicated the conduct of the President and Council. Lord Mulgrave, Mr. Frere, and some other gentlemen, spoke on the same side of the question. They were replied to by Baron Maseres, Dr. Horsley, and some others; and about eleven o'clock, after a debate of three hours, the question was put to the ballot, when the numbers were for the question, that is for the restoration of Dr. Hutton 47; against it 85.

### THE ENGLISH THEATRE, AND REGISTER OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

**I**T is impossible to withhold innocent entertainment from the people of England. Notwithstanding the state of the nation in general, and the prevalence of distress, the effect both of the late war, and unavoidable inclemency of the season, it is impossible not to soften the rigour of austere morality, and allow that people to enjoy their favourite amusements, who show themselves on all occasions ready to alleviate the sorrows of the poor and the friendless. The very liberal contributions in most parts of the country do honour to human nature. Surely they who do so much to cheer the hearts of the miserable ought to be permitted to amuse their own minds

in what manner they please. The consideration of the many instances of bounty which have appeared for some time past takes from that uneasiness which we otherwise should feel, when we see with what eagerness people indulge in their favourite diversions, in spite of national confusions, and every principle of economy. They show that although they are prodigal in their expences incurred by amusements, they are on proper occasions no less lavish in their generosity to the unhappy and the deserving. Let these reflections accompany the reader while he sees that we are more grave on some objects of public attention than in strict justice they may deserve.

### COVENT-GARDEN.

NEAR the end of January, the pantomime called Harlequin Friar Bacon, and which we gave an account of

in our Magazine for that month, was withdrawn for the purpose of making such alterations as might render it more worthy



worthy of applause. As it originally stood, we accounted it a very pleasing puppet-show. But the appearance of a pantomime in Drury-lane, greater in merit than most ever exhibited there, and favoured with universal approbation, occasioned a dramatic jealousy at Covent-Garden. The manager of that house wished to maintain his sovereign and exclusive right to have the best pantomimes, and, therefore, recommended to the *author*—for every pantomime has an *author*, as much as a system of ethics, or a theological commentary—recommended to the *author* that he should make such changes and improvements, as to render it on the whole equal, if not superior to the pantomime of the other house.

This was a proper emulation, and deserving of the thanks of the public! Would that the execution had been equal to the intention! The first act is certainly purged of its superfluities, and improved into a something more regular and consistent than before. The Lilliputians seem more *at home*, and the Brobdignagians carry about their *pasteboard bodies* with great facility, and if we may be allowed the expression, with a better deception. But of the second act—what shall we say? Brief let us be; it was the *ne plus ultra* of absurdity, without the least attention to fable, connexion, or any one requisite to make a pantomime agreeable. To enter on its particular demerits is a task something beneath that of a writer in this miscellany, and is more worthy of those benevolent critics who write criticisms *before* plays are acted, and print censures on performers who never appeared. One shocking barbarity we cannot omit—not that of introducing a live cock to be tormented, although that was bad enough—but the introduction of a song sung by Edwin in the character of a *bunch-backed* barber, the sentiments and words of which song, as well as the manner of singing it, are adapted to the pupils of the academy at Woolwich\*, and to no other class of persons we know. It was an insult to the audience to introduce such a song. It was a gross prostitution of ink and catgut to write and

set it to music. It always gives us pain to censure a favoured writer, but we must in plain terms tell the author of the pantomime, that there has a licentiousness prevailed of late in the department of song-writing, which we shall ever reprobate, convinced that it vitiates the taste of the town, and hurts the delicacy of pure manners. We have only to add, that this pantomime in its altered state is called, *Harlequin Rambler*.

Feb. 3, Was presented at this theatre, The SHIPWRECK, a tragedy, being an alteration from *Lillo's Fatal Curiosity*. Our readers may remember that *Fatal Curiosity* was performed in the summer 1782, at the Theatre Royal Haymarket, for which it was prepared by Mr. Colman. Our readers will also remember that many critics opposed the exhibition of it, because it was too horrid for representation. The opinion of the late Mr. Harris, of Salisbury, weighed with others, and the tragedy was played several nights with great success. It was thought that the author of the present alterations (Mr. Mackenzie, author of the *Man of Feeling*, &c.) would have profited by the opinions of that time, and softened the catastrophe. But we were surprised to find that he had heightened the distress in every part, by the introduction of a child, and many other circumstances. He has accumulated the distress of the wretched parents, in order that their crime may appear more excusable from the additional strength of temptation, and this was proper and laudable, had he by some means or other prevented the horrid conclusion—but this he has not done, and the play ends as before. There are many beauties in the parts, which are entirely new, and which do credit to the head and heart of the author, but there is a confusion in his structure of the fable, which impedes the right understanding of the several characters.

Our opinion of *Fatal Curiosity* was that which we now offer concerning the *Shipwreck*; we are clearly of opinion that the fable is improper for representation. The crime with all possible alleviations is too horrid—much

\* The hulks.

too horrid to be represented in such glowing colours as cannot but make us dissatisfied with our natures, and by frequent exhibition may leave impressions on our minds which we could not believe them capable of receiving. The crime of these unhappy wretches ought to be buried in perpetual oblivion. No mention ought to be made of it. If mentioned, it ought to be inculcated that no such crime ever did, or ever can happen. But the frequent representation of crimes undoubtedly destroys impressions of detestation. We become familiar with villainy and blood, and in an hour of temptation and misery are too often apt to realize those crimes, and fall into those weaknesses which we saw represented so as to claim the pity and benignity of a sympathizing world. The frequent occurrence of any crime in real life tends to make it less detested, less remarkable. May not then the frequent representation of it loosen the bonds that connect our minds with virtue, and make us think that there is a Providence which permits such crimes, as necessary appendages to our nature? We cannot dwell on this subject more fully at present, but if any of our readers think that our opinions on it are more speculative than just we shall gladly renew it, and endeavour to prove that experience, and not imagination has led us to offer objections to the representation of such horrid tragedies as that now before us.

The Shipwreck was performed by Mess. Henderson, Wroughton, Whitfield, Davies, Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Kemble, and Mrs. Morton. Of these Mr. Henderson deserves the most praise. Indeed, we hardly remember a finer piece of acting than his Old Wilmot. In many parts he displayed inimitable excellence. It is impossible to convey to our readers the effects which were produced by his expression of

“Down, down my swelling heart,  
Or burst in silence”——

And

——“Once we hoped  
T’ have call’d fair Charlot by a dearer name—  
But we have done with hope—I pray excuse  
This incoherence——*We had once a son.*”

And in this:

“There is a kind of pride, a decent dignity  
Due to ourselves; which, spite of our misfortunes,  
May be maintained and cherished to the last.”

Mr. Wroughton played successfully, but we cannot speak much in favour of any of the ladies, except Mrs. Bates. Mrs. Kemble is an industrious performer, but her parts in tragedy require a strength which cannot be expected from her tender frame. Her part ought to have been played by Miss Younge. The illness of Mr. Henderson has prevented this tragedy from being acted since the first night. When it next appears, we may take further notice of it.

### DRURY-LANE.

Feb. 14. A new comedy, called THE REPARATION, was performed for the first time. The author is Mr. Miles Andrews, who has already been successful in his dramatic attempts, witness The Summer Amusement, Dissipation, Fire and Water, &c. &c. We always thought Mr. Andrews had wit, and his new comedy not a little confirms our opinion. The characters and story are as follow:

#### DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Sir Greg. Glovetop *Mr. Parsons*  
Lord Hectic *Mr. Dodd.*

Loveless	<i>Mr. Brereton.</i>
Captain O'Swagger	<i>Mr. Moody.</i>
Pickax	<i>Mr. Baddeley.</i>
Belcour	<i>Mr. Farren.</i>
Janus	<i>Mr. Bannister, Junr.</i>
Captain Hardy	<i>Mr. Packer.</i>
Colonel Quorum	<i>Mr. Lee-Lewes.</i>
Lady B. Wormwood	<i>Miss Pope.</i>
Miss Penel. Zodiac	<i>Mrs. Hopkins.</i>
Anna	<i>Mrs. Wells.</i>
Harriet	<i>Mrs. Brereton.</i>
Louisa	<i>Miss Farren.</i>

Loveless, a man of family and fortune, in the earlier part of his life becomes



becomes enamoured of Julia, the daughter of Captain Hardy, a reduced officer; but, finding it impossible to succeed in his wishes, deceives her by a pretended marriage. During the progress of this, the father of Loveless insists on his son's marrying a lady of large fortune he had chosen, threatening him with disinheritance in case of a refusal. After some conflict, he discloses to Julia the deception he had practised on her, who, shocked at the recital, flies from him with her infant child. The death of his wife leaves him in the wish and the power to make reparation to Julia; but, unable to find out the place of her retreat, and supposing she is actually dead, he resolves to leave England. At this moment the piece commences, and we find him disclosing his resolution to Belcour, a friend of his, whom he has come down to see at the seat of Lord Hectic, a vain man of fashion, who fancies himself a man of prowess, in spite of an infirm constitution, and who, by the assistance of an Irish cousin, Captain Swagger, has made some advances to Louisa, a young widow in the neighbourhood. Belcour endeavours to dissuade him from his resolution; at the same time disclosing a dishonourable passion he had himself conceived for Harriet, daughter to a Sir Gregory Glovetop, formerly a gentleman-usher to the old court, but which he declares he will desist from on hearing his friend's story. Lord Hectic contrives to pursue his plans upon the widow by the help of Janus, a pettifogging attorney, while Lady Betty Wormwood, sister to Lord Hectic, endeavours to prevent them, from a fear her brother should be seduced into a marriage, and herself deprived of his inheritance, while Miss Penelope Zodiac, a friend of her's, assists her wishes from a general dislike to ladies who think they have beauty, as well as from an apprehension she has engaged the heart of Colonel Quorum, a magistrate in the neighbourhood, whom she has wished to attach to herself. Various stratagems are practised upon the widow, who has been driven from the house of Sir Gregory Glovetop, where she

had resided with her friend Harriet, from the libertine importunities of his lordship, and the misrepresentations of his sister. Loveless and Belcour, on being consulted by Lord Hectic, begin to feel an interest in Louisa's story, and would assist her, did not his lordship assure them she was partial to his wishes, and would comply of course. During the conflict of these different interests, in which Louisa is driven to every species of distress, Loveless receives a letter from Captain Hardy, the father of his Julia, to whom he had now disclosed the story of his deceiving his daughter, and who insists upon immediate satisfaction. Unable to lift his arm against the father of his injured love, he comes to Lord Hectic to consult him, and entering abruptly into his apartment, he discovers the widow my lord had mentioned, and who had come there on a business of distress, to be his own lost Julia. An eclairsissement ensues; and after having satisfied the resentment of Captain Hardy, and appeased his rage by the influence of his daughter's offspring, the reparation is made by marrying Louisa: Colonel Quorum, the honourable admirer of Louisa, is likewise satisfied (though with the disappointment of his addresses) on finding her united to the man of her heart; Sir Gregory consents to his daughter Harriet's marriage with Belcour, and the piece concludes.

Since the first appearance of this comedy it has undergone several judicious alterations, and as now played may be pronounced the best comedy we have seen since the *School for Scandal*, to which, however, we by no means compare it even *longo intervallo*, but when our reader recollects what kind of trash has lately been thrust on the stage, under the name of comedy, he will not think we pay Mr. Andrews too high a compliment, when we prefer *Reparation* to all its contemporaries. From our sketch of the fable, it will appear that the author intended to succeed by a mixture of the pathetic and the humorous, both which, however, he has carried too far. His pathetic is too affecting for comedy, and his humour sometimes

sometimes too farcical. The wit is in many places sterling, and the language of the whole chaste and delicate, if we except some expressions from the mouth of Miss Penelope Zodiack, to which the profligacy of modern manners has affixed a meaning of indelicacy. "To the pure all things are *not* pure" on the stage. The political allusions have been left out; that concerning the *back stairs* had well nigh damned the whole.

Except the character of Sir G. Glovetop, we could discover little or no originality in any of the characters, but we had much rather see a known character placed in new lights, and heightened by new situations, than the absurd monsters which in some plays and novels claim the merit of originality, and whose originality consists in this, that there is nothing in the heavens above, the earth beneath, or the waters under the earth, to which we can liken them. So that, although the characters in *Reparation* are not entirely new, the follies or virtues which constitute them are better ridi-

culed, or more advantageously seen, as in the character of Louisa, and Janus the attorney.

On the whole, we cannot but conclude, that *Reparation* is a very entertaining and interesting comedy, *as times go*, and we can say of it what we have not been able to say of any new comedy these three years, that we saw it a second and a third time with pleasure. The prologue and epilogue were much applauded, and deservedly. Our readers will find them in our poetical department.

The performers deserve the thanks of the author. They were all perfect in their parts, and in general unexceptionable in their performance. Mr. Brereton, Mr. Lewes, Mr. Parsons, and Mr. Bannister, Jun. of the men, and Miss Farren and Mrs. Wells of the ladies, are entitled to particular praise. The characters played by Mr. Moody, Miss Pope, and Mrs. Hopkins are against those performers. The first ought to be left out altogether.

## NEW MINISTRY.

WE have repeatedly declared ourselves attached to no party, either in literature or in politics, and though we have not the vanity to imagine that we are seated on the calm summit of human wisdom,

*Despicere unde queas alios, passimque videre Errare, atque viam palanteis quærare vitæ,*  
though we are not exempted from human prejudices, we can with justice lay claim to the independence and impartiality of men whose judgement is not governed by their passions, and whose opinions are unbiassed either by hopes or fears, except such as they share with every good citizen. When we review the means by which the leading men of both parties have attained that transitory consequence on which they found their pretensions to the exclusive government of the state, and the purposes to which they have uniformly employed it, we find that they have acted in strict conformity to the established practice of preceding and contemporary statesmen, and that the public weal has not been less a secondary consideration in their former conduct, than in their present base and intemperate struggle for power; which suspends all the operations of external government, and engages the executive and controlling branches of the constitution, ordained for mutual support, in a cruel and unnatural contest. Viewed abstractedly in this

light, their conduct would often call for censure, and seldom for praise. In what follows, we beg to be understood as speaking of the two parties comparatively rather than with reference to what is right; and that when we mention the measures of the one in terms of disapprobation, we may not be considered as the advocates of the other.

If the coalition, as it has been so often represented, was a monstrous combination of men of opposite principles, whose sole object in uniting was to gratify their inordinate ambition, it gave birth to an opposition formed of as discordant materials, which though less bold and vigorous in its advances to power, because not so firmly united, has proved itself not less tenacious of the possession. We have already taken notice of the rejection of the India bill, and the dismissal of the Portland ministry. It quickly appeared, that to wrest the management of affairs from their hands was the only measure in which Mr. Pitt and his friends were unanimous, or on which they had separately made up their minds: and that having effected their purpose, perhaps sooner than they themselves expected, they were not prepared with an arrangement of their own body, to fill the numerous places which the retreat of the coalition left vacant. The formation of an entire new ministry, in opposition to a great majority



majority of the House of Commons, was an attempt so new and hazardous as impressed the boldest and most subtle statesmen with some degree of doubt and apprehension. Add to this, that as all who were dissatisfied with the coalition, of whatever party, had repaired to one common standard, there was not less difference of opinion, nor less opposition of principle to be reconciled among them, before an efficient administration could be formed, than had been objected to that reprobated junction. Instead of acting with unanimity, vigour, and decision, as the arduous and critical situation to which their sovereign had called them required, they seemed afraid to enter the empty cabinet, and their first steps, after taking possession of it, betrayed hesitation, perplexity, and mutual distrust. The different departments were filled up slowly and reluctantly, and the adjournment for the holidays was almost expired, before the following arrangement was completed:

Mr. William Pitt, First Lord of the Treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Marquis of Caermarthen, Secretary of State for the foreign department.

Lord Sydney, Secretary for the home department.

Earl Gower, Lord President.

Duke of Rutland, Lord Privy Seal.

Lord Howe, First Lord of the Admiralty, and

Lord Thurlow, Lord Chancellor.

The above persons form the Cabinet.

Duke of Richmond, Master General of the Ordnance.

Sir George Howard, K. B. Commander in Chief of the Forces.

The Marquis of Graham,

John Buller, Esq.

Edw. James Elliott, Esq.

John Aubrey, Esq.

Charles Brett, Esq.

Hon. John J. Pratt, Esq.

Hon. Leveon Gower,

Lord Apsley,

Charles G. Percival, Esq.

James M. Heywood, Esq.

Lloyd Kenyon, Esq. Attorney-General.

Richard Pepper Arden, Esq. Solicitor-General.

The Earl of Salisbury, Lord Chamberlain of the Household.

Duke of Chandos, Lord Steward of the Household.

Lord De Ferrars, Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners.

The Hon. William Wyndham Grenville, Paymaster-General of the Forces.

Henry Dundas, Esq. Treasurer of the Navy.

Sir George Yonge, Bart. Secretary at War.

Gibbs Crawford, Esq. Clerk of the Ordnance.

John Aldridge, Esq. Keeper of the Ordnance.

Thomas Baillie, Esq. Clerk of the Deliveries of the Ordnance.

William Smith, Esq. Treasurer and Paymaster of the Ordnance.

Earl Clarendon, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Earl Bathurst, Ranger of St. James's and the Green Parks.

LOND. MAG. Feb. 1784.

Duke of Dorset, Ambassador at the Court of France.

Daniel Hailes, Esq. Secretary to the French embassy.

Earl of Chesterfield, Ambassador at the court of Spain.

Arthur Stanhope, Esq. Secretary to the Spanish embassy.

Earl of Aylesford, Captain of the Yeomen of the guard.

Earl of Tankerville, } Postmasters-

Rght Hon. Henry F. Carteret, } General.

G. A. Selwyn, Esq. Surveyor of the Crown Lands.

Samuel Estwick, Esq. Secretary and Register of Chelsea Hospital.

Mr. Rose } Secretaries of the Treasury.

Mr. Steele }

Mr. Bankes to be Private Secretary to Mr. Treasurer Pitt.

That our readers may judge of the pains taken in forming this arrangement, to obtain a majority in the House of Commons, we have laid it before them at one view. The whole influence of the crown, and the interest of some powerful individuals, was exerted to tempt the ambitious, allure the needy, and intimidate the dependent. The new ministry derived no small accession of strength from the support of the East-India Company. We know not whether the combination, that could resist unbroken such united efforts, when the tide of popularity was turned against it, was not formidable to the constitution from the very circumstance of its power, had the designs of those who formed it been as pure as they professed them to be. A member who had been Lord North's confidential secretary during his long administration, and his supposed agent in corrupting parliament; who had canvassed boroughs, managed elections, and conducted all the secret business which constitutes so essential a part of modern politics, for all which services he had been rewarded with a pension; having now renounced his former connexions and his gratitude, was employed and trusted with an ill grace, by men who opposed the purity of their characters to every impeachment of their measures.—Lord North and Mr. Fox, it may be supposed, exerted themselves with equal diligence and more success, to preserve the adherence of their party. The means which they employed were less notorious, as being in their nature less liable to observation. On the meeting of the House, the opposition and Treasury benches resounded with mutual upbraidings of corruption and undue influence, perhaps with equal truth.

As the King's answer to the address of the 22d Dec. was framed to admit whatever construction it might be found convenient to put upon it, it was pretty generally believed, that unless the new ministry were supported in the House of Commons a dissolution of parliament would instantly take place. On the 12th of January the ex-ministers availed themselves of the majority which they still retained in the House of Commons to pass such resolutions as they thought best calculated to render that measure impracticable. They voted it a high crime and misdemeanor to issue any money for

the support of the services voted this session, if the parliament should be prorogued or dissolved before an act for appropriating the supplies to such services should have passed.

That an account should be laid before the House of the several sums of money issued for such services from the 19th of December to the 14th of January.

That the bill for punishing mutiny and desertion should be read a second time on Monday the 23d of February. The intent of the second resolution was to prevent the distribution of money from the Treasury, for the purpose of returning members, a well-known practice on every general election. These steps were taken to secure the existence of a parliament which they had experienced so firmly devoted to their cause. Their next were more directly pointed against the ministry. They voted "That, in the present situation of his Majesty's dominions, it is peculiarly necessary that there should be an administration which has the confidence of this House and the public."

"That the late changes in his Majesty's councils were immediately preceded by dangerous and universal reports; that his Majesty's sacred name had been unconstitutionally abused, to affect the deliberations of parliament; and that the appointments made were accompanied by circumstances new and extraordinary, and such as do not conciliate or engage the affections of this House."

So decided a declaration of the House of Commons against ministers; it was thought, must be followed by their resignation; and that they only remained in office to try the fate of Mr. Pitt's India bill. The idea of a dissolution of parliament, in case of its being rejected, was as prevalent as ever, and seemed to be held up as an object of terror to the House of Commons. If it had its effect in bringing over some, it served to confirm others in their former connexions. This obvious bad consequence resulted from it, that as it was a point in which members were more generally interested than who should be minister, it forced many to declare themselves who would otherwise have remained neuter; and when men are compelled to take a side, it is not difficult to say how they will determine, between that which constrains them to action, and that which permits them to enjoy the prospect of sharing the victory, without participating the danger.

Jan. 14. Mr. Pitt opened his plan for the government of India, and leave was given to bring in a bill accordingly.

Jan. 16. Mr. Pitt refusing to give any explicit answer to questions respecting a dissolution, the House resolved, in addition to the last resolution of the 12th, "That the continuance of the present ministers in trusts of the highest importance and responsibility is contrary to constitutional principles, and injurious to the interests of his Majesty and his people."

As these resolutions failed of their intended effect, and put a stop to all business, it was difficult to see where the contest would end, or what might be its consequences. A general coalition began to be talked of; and from the temperance and candour of this day's debate, in comparison

of the former heat and violence, with the adjournment of the committee on the state of the nation, on the Tuesday following, to the 26th, it was hoped with some confidence that a negotiation for that purpose was on foot. They who entertained such hopes were not aware of the obstacles that stood in the way of an union. The ministry had manifested no inclination to submit to the decision of the House; and Mr. Fox had declared that he would not give up the principle of his India bill, the independence of the commissioners on the crown by being nominated by parliament, and their continuing for a given time in office. The patronage of India was too rich a spoil for either party to resign to their opponents, and to divide it between both was a matter not easily adjusted. The sudden moderation of opposition was to be deduced from another cause. An association of the country members was actually forming, who they saw were no longer disposed to be the obsequious partizans or tame spectators of a contest, which threatened utter ruin to the declining interests of the nation. It required little discernment to foresee that such an association would support that party which seemed most inclined to union; their majority was sunk from fifty-four to twenty-one; and it was hard to say what the obstinate perseverance of ministry might effect.

Jan. 23. Mr. Pitt's India bill was rejected, after the second reading, by a majority of eight. Of that bill it is unnecessary to speak, since there seems already to be but one opinion concerning it, and since those who wished to see it committed acknowledged its deficiency. Mr. Fox then moved for leave to bring in a new bill, which he was willing to accommodate to the general wishes of the House, reserving only the fundamental principles of the old bill, viz. that the seat of government of India should be at home, and the system permanent. Mr. Pitt being called upon in the most urgent manner from all sides of the House, to declare whether the parliament was now at an end, and persisting in a silence not very usual with ministers of late years, the clerk of the parliamentary enrollments was ordered to attend, to receive directions to deliver out the new writs with fairness, in case of a dissolution. On Saturday they obtained an assurance from Mr. Pitt that they should meet again on

Monday the 26th, when Mr. Eden, to ascertain the existence of parliament, brought forward the following motion: "That it appears to this House, that his Majesty's most gracious answer contains assurances upon which this House cannot but most firmly rely, that his Majesty will not by any prorogation or dissolution of parliament interrupt this House in their considerations of proper measures for regulating the affairs of the East-India Company, and for supporting the public credit and revenues of this country, objects which, in the opinion of his Majesty, and of this House, and of the public, cannot but be thought to demand the most immediate and unremitting attention of parliament."

Though Mr. Pitt opposed this motion, it extracted an answer from him, that in the present situation of affairs he thought a dissolution of parliament must be attended with great detriment,

me  
ex  
ing  
cre  
wa  
too  
stry  
by  
dan  
fect  
cou  
of  
ing  
and  
serv  
from  
ed t  
conc  
trem  
they  
caus  
from  
The  
when  
dation  
to irr  
Fe  
meet  
is the  
tion f  
cessar  
tions  
and  
And  
clined  
resolu  
demon  
majori  
of the  
lutions  
cient,  
can al  
it was  
before  
Feb.  
chief  
lutions  
utility  
quarrel  
founded  
the 24th  
the Tre  
East-Ind  
and on  
have me  
port:  
to assum  
thority  
liament,  
own dic  
"Th  
the right  
And,  
to be fati  
lecting m  
House."  
lutions w  
We hav  
in our opi



ment, and therefore would not advise such an exercise of the prerogative. By an answer having been denied so long, when withholding it created enemies, it is evident that the cabinet was divided on this important point.

The meeting at the St. Alban's-tavern, which took place this day, inspired the friends of ministry with considerable hopes, and was not beheld by the coalition without alarm. A new standard was erected, to which all who felt or affected patriotism, who courted popularity, or could be flattered by the imaginary consequence of becoming arbitrators between the contending factions, would repair. Their own address, and the haughty inflexibility of his Majesty's servants enabled them to derive effectual support from a circumstance which, at first sight, portended the downfall of their party. By making every concession that was demanded of them, and intrenching themselves behind the resolutions which they themselves had passed, they blended their cause with that of the House of Commons, and from that time continued to gather fresh strength. Their condescension appeared to more advantage when contrasted with the sullen, unaccommodating obstinacy of administration, which served to irritate the House, by defying its authority.

Feb. 2. Mr. Grosvenor, the chairman of the meeting at the St. Alban's, moved, "That it is the opinion of this House, that an administration firm, efficient, extended, and united is necessary at the present time, to heal the distractions of the country, and to save it from ruin and destruction," which passed unanimously. And as Mr. Powys and other members now declined supporting Mr. Pitt, in opposition to the resolutions of the House, although they condemned these resolutions, it was carried by a majority of nineteen, "That the continuation of the present ministers in power, after the resolutions of this House, is an obstacle to a firm, efficient, extended, and united administration, which can alone save this country." And next day it was voted, "That these resolutions be laid before his Majesty."

Feb. 4. The House of Lords, where the chief strength of ministry lay, passed several resolutions, of which it is difficult to discover the utility. They evidently tended to bring on a quarrel with the Lower House. They were founded on a vote of the House of Commons of the 24th of December, restricting the Lords of the Treasury from suffering the Directors of the East-India Company to accept any more bills; and on that of the 12th of January, which we have mentioned, and were to the following purport: "That for any branch of the legislature to assume a power to direct or control an authority vested in any set of men by act of parliament, and to be exercised by them at their own discretion, is unconstitutional and illegal."

"That the constitution vested in the crown the right of appointing its ministers."

And, "That their lordships had every reason to be satisfied with his Majesty's wisdom in selecting men who merited the confidence of that House." An address grounded on these resolutions was presented to his Majesty.

We have mentioned these resolutions, as being, in our opinion, a feeble and ill-judged attempt in

support of ministry: the proceedings of the other House, as its privileges were concerned, will be seen in our Parliamentary History.

Feb. 11 Mr. Fox professed his willingness to modify his India bill, so as to meet general approbation, and Lord North declared, that, though he would not sacrifice his claim to power to the prejudices or passions of any man, yet he would willingly resign his pretensions if his country required that sacrifice of him. Mr. Pitt persisted in his determination never to resign in order to negotiate. The Chairman of the St. Alban's meeting was of opinion, that after what had been said he was bound to resign.

About this time a small change took place in the cabinet, the Duke of Rutland being appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. It was thought that Lord Temple, who had differed at first with Mr. Pitt, respecting a dissolution of parliament, would succeed his Grace as Lord Privy Seal.

Much of the popular odium against the late ministry had arisen from the receipt tax. How ill grounded that was, appeared from the bill for amending it being committed on the 12th, with the entire concurrence of the present ministry, those who had formerly opposed it the most vehemently withdrawing before the division.

On Sunday the 15th, his Majesty sent to the Duke of Portland, to desire an interview between him and some members of the present cabinet, with a view of establishing a *new* and united administration, which his Grace declined, unless they should first resign. He could not think of sacrificing the dignity of the House of Commons to Mr. Pitt's punctilios, but such was his desire of accommodation, that if that House should be satisfied that the words *new administration* implied a resignation of the present, all impediments to a negotiation would be removed. This concession the ministry refused to make.

Feb. 18. The order of the day being for bringing up the report on the Ordnance estimates, Mr. Pitt, as he had promised to satisfy the House what his Majesty's ideas were respecting the resolutions that had been laid before him, before the question of supply should be taken into consideration, said from authority, "That his Majesty, from a consideration of the circumstances of the times, had not dismissed his ministers, nor had they resigned."—Mr. Fox declared that this intelligence was of a nature unknown in the annals of this country, since the Revolution; and that the House might have time to think on the new and extraordinary circumstances in which they stood, he moved to defer the consideration of the report till Friday, which was carried by a majority of 12, although it was strenuously contended by Mr. Pitt and his friends, that those who advised to postpone the supplies could mean only to withhold them.

On Friday 20, Mr. Powis moved a resolution to the following effect: "That this House, strongly impressed with his Majesty's parental goodness, and confiding in his royal wisdom, had every reliance that his Majesty will take such measures as are most likely to effect the object of their former resolutions—a firm, efficient, extended, and united administration." To which

Mr. Eden added an amendment: "That his Majesty will remove such impediments as may stand in the way of giving effect to the resolutions of this House." Mr. Pitt met this resolution with high language, and repeated with much firmness his determination to remain in office; till other means were adopted, or till he was driven from it. It was carried by a majority of 20, and converted into an address to the King, which was also carried by a majority of 21, and ordered to be presented by the whole House. The report of the Ordnance estimates was then brought up, and agreed to unanimously.

Such was the state of things when the course of publication obliged us to close our account. We will not speculate on the probable consequences. Whether the King possesses the uncontrollable prerogative of appointing his own

ministers, or whether the House of Commons may interpose with its negative, seems now fairly at issue; a question which we could have wished to remain among the undecided points of the constitution. We shall close this article with another specimen of parliamentary traffick, being an advertisement copied from the Morning Herald of Jan. 7th. "There will be a vacancy in a Western part of England, whether a d—— (dissolution) takes place or not. A gentleman of character and fortune would be effectually introduced by a person who retires. If this should attract the notice of such a person, it will be necessary that he should appear himself at an interview, as no agent, solicitor, or any other but the principal will be seen. Direct to C. D. No. 21, Old Boswell-court, Carey-street."

*Account of the Proceedings of the Gentlemen, Members of the House of Commons, who assembled at the St. Alban's-Tavern, with a view to conciliate differences, and forward an union of parties.*

ON Monday the 26th of January, the first meeting was held, when an address was agreed to, and signed by fifty-three members of the House of Commons, and presented by a committee to the Duke of Portland and the Right Hon. William Pitt. It was to the following purport:

"We, whose names are hereunto signed, members of the House of Commons, being fully persuaded that the united efforts of those, in whose integrity, abilities, and constitutional principles we have reason to confide, can alone rescue the country from its present distracted state, do join in most earnestly intreating them to communicate with each other on the arduous situation of public affairs; trusting that by a liberal and unreserved intercourse between them, every impediment may be removed to a cordial co-operation of great and respectable characters, acting on the same public principle, and entitled to the support of independent and disinterested men."

The Duke of Portland returned for answer: "That he should think himself happy in obeying the commands of so respectable a meeting. But the greatest difficulty to him, and he imagined still greater to Mr. Pitt, was Mr. Pitt's being in office."

Mr. Pitt's answer was: "That he would be very ready to pay attention to the commands of so respectable a meeting, and co-operate with their wishes, to form a stronger and more extended administration, if the same could be done with principle and honour."

On Tuesday the 27th, the gentlemen met at the said tavern, when there appeared to be seventy members, and the above answers being read, they came to the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to his grace the Duke of Portland, and the Right Hon. William Pitt, for the attention they have respectively declared themselves ready to pay to the requisitions presented to them in our names."

"Resolved, secondly, That in anxious expecta-

tion of a cordial co-operation of great and respectable characters, acting on the same public principles, we beg leave to express our most earnest wish, that some explanation may be had between the Duke of Portland and Mr. Pitt on any difficulty in the way of confidential intercourse.

"Resolved, thirdly, That we do not presume to point out the mode in which such mutual explanation may be obtained, studiously avoiding any interference on our part, which may impede or counteract whatever steps are taken towards that communication which it is our object to effect.

"Resolved, fourthly, That the chairman be desired to communicate these resolutions to his Grace of Portland and Mr. Pitt."

The resolutions of Tuesday evening last being communicated to Mr. Pitt, he returned the following answer:

"Mr. Pitt having received from so respectable a meeting an intimation of their wishes, that some explanation may be had between the Duke of Portland and himself, on any difficulties in the way of confidential intercourse, begs to assure Mr. Grosvenor (the chairman) that there are no difficulties on his part in the way of an immediate intercourse with the Duke of Portland on the subject of an union consistent with honour and principle, which he agrees with the gentlemen of the meeting, in thinking of the greatest importance in the present state of the country. If, on his Grace's part, there are any objections to such intercourse, Mr. Pitt wishes to have them stated, and will immediately give a direct answer with regard to them."

The Duke of Portland returned the following answer (addressed to the chairman):

*Devon-House, Thursday, Jan. 29, 1784.*

"SIR,

"AS you have so very obligingly communicated to me the assurances you have received from Mr. Pitt, that there are no difficulties on his part in the way of an immediate intercourse between him and me on the subject of an union of parties, and that he is ready to give an im-

mediate



mediate and direct answer to any objections which I may have to such intercourse, my sincere inclination to concur in the wishes of the very respectable meeting, of which you so worthily fill the chair; and my anxious desire to see such an administration formed upon a solid and secure basis, as may restore harmony to this distracted empire, and may be entitled to the confidence and support of every true friend of his country, make it necessary for me to trouble you with a repetition of the reasons which I assigned to you and other gentlemen who delivered me the representation and requisition of your meeting of the 26th of January, for declining an immediate interview with Mr. Pitt, on the present arduous situation of public affairs.

"I had the honour of stating to you, I did not think it possible that such a meeting would tend to forward the desirable end we all wish, as long as Mr. Pitt remained in his ministerial capacity, notwithstanding the resolution of the House of Commons on the 16th inst. Under these circumstances the embarrassment seems mutual and difficult to be got over; but if any expedient can be devised for removing it, I shall be extremely ready to confer with Mr. Pitt, and to contribute every faculty in my power to promote the object of our joint wishes.

"I have the honour to be,

"With great respect,

"Your most obedient,

(Signed)

"PORTLAND."

*Thos. Grosvenor, Esq. Chairman.*

Thursday the 29th, the gentlemen met, and there being above eighty members present, they came to the following resolution:

Resolved, "That the chairman be requested to return our thanks to the Duke of Portland and Mr. Pitt, for the additional favour they have now given of their attention to our wishes.

"To express our cordial satisfaction to find they agree in opinion with this meeting, that an union is of the highest importance, and is the object of their joint wishes.

"To intimate to them, that after these declarations we are the more strongly confirmed in our hope and expectation, that by the intervention of mutual friends, some expedient may be devised, which may tend to remove the difficulty, which is stated to be the most material obstacle to a communication between them, on the subject of a cordial and permanent union.

(Signed) "T. GROSVENOR, Chairman."

It is but fair to add, that the Duke of Portland had seen Mr. Pitt's answer, but Mr. Pitt had not yet seen the Duke's.

January 31, the following letters were received and read:

*Berkeley-square, 31st Jan. 1784.*

"Mr. PITT has already had the honour of stating to Mr. Grosvenor, that there are no difficulties on his part in the way of an immediate intercourse, for the purpose of effecting an union consistent with honour and principle. With regard to the embarrassment stated by the Duke of Portland in his Grace's letter, referred to in the resolutions of the meeting, arising from Mr. Pitt's remaining in his ministerial capacity, it is an embarrassment which Mr. Pitt cannot remove, by resignation, in order to negotiate.

In these circumstances, Mr. Pitt has it not in his power to suggest any expedient, but is very desirous of learning whether the Duke of Portland can propose any thing which his Grace considers as such, and he begs at the same time to add that his present ministerial capacity is no obstacle to his discussing every point that relates to the desirable object in question, as freely and openly as he could do in any other situation."

*Devon-House, Sat. 31 Jan. 1784.*

"S I R,

"I am extremely sorry that Mr. Pitt appears so positively to decline suggesting any expedient on his part, to remove the difficulties which obstruct the conference you desire. I believe you will agree, that the continuance of the present ministry, and the honour of the House of Commons, are not very easily reconcilable.

"It was the sense of those difficulties, and my earnest desire of complying with the opinions of gentlemen whose sentiments claim my highest respect, that induced me to suggest the possibility of an expedient which you will easily discern would not depend upon me. The recollection of similar events in two successive years led me to flatter myself that there was a middle way between the actual resignation of ministers and the neglect of what appeared on the journals of the House of Commons. I hoped that Mr. Pitt would have adverted to those events, and I trust they will yet have due weight with him; I shall most certainly rejoice in any proposition that can promise to lay a basis for the tranquillity and settlement which are the objects of our common wishes. I have the honour to be,

"With great truth and regard, Sir,

"Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

"PORTLAND."

*Thomas Grosvenor, Esq. Chairman.*

Monday, Feb. 2, the following letters were read:

*Berkeley-Square, Feb. 1, 1784.*

"Mr. Pitt being sincerely desirous that there should not continue any obstacle in the way of such an intercourse as has been wished for, regrets that it is not in his power to suggest expedients to remove the difficulty felt by the Duke of Portland. He does not understand precisely what is the middle way which his Grace seems to allude to; the events in the two years to which his Grace refers appear to Mr. Pitt to have been only modes of resignation, and such a measure, in order to enter into a negotiation, is what the present ministry, as has been already declared, cannot agree to. Whenever any expedient is directly stated, Mr. Pitt will be happy to give every explanation upon it."

*Devon-House, Monday morn, 2 Feb. 1784.*

"S I R,

"I very sincerely regret that the expedient to which I referred should be thought unapplicable to the difficulties I had stated. I certainly suggested it as a mode of resignation, but as a mode of resignation the least embarrassing to government in the ordinary functions of office, and at the same time as a proof of a disposition to consult the honour of the House of Commons, as it stands pledged by the resolution of the 16th of January. This last is a preliminary, which, as a friend to the spirit of the constitution,

constitution, I must think myself bound invariably to require.

"With respect to myself, I am willing to hope that I have not been mistaken in the conception I formed of your wishes, by supposing that it was with Mr. Pitt that you were desirous I should have a liberal and unreserved intercourse, and not with the head of an administration, to which I was merely to bring an accession of strength. But Mr. Pitt's message places him in another character; and your own good sense will readily suggest to you, that it was impossible for me to suppose that your expectations extended to a confidential conference with him, as the representative of the present administration.

"If I had done this, I must have fallen in your esteem (which, I assure you, is a very serious object to me) as I should have shown myself insensible of what is due to the House of Commons.

"I have unreservedly submitted to you my ideas of the extent of your expectations. In conformity with those expectations (Mr. Pitt having uniformly declined to suggest any expedient on his part) I took the liberty of suggesting an expedient, which I thought might put us into a situation, in which the intercourse you wished might take place with propriety.

"I shall be happy to find that my propositions have met with your approbation; but, in every grant, I hope that my anxiety to merit the partiality you have shown me will entitle me to its continuance.

"I have the honour to be, with great regard and esteem, Sir,

Your most faithful and obedient servant,

(Signed)

"PORTLAND."

T. Grosvenor, Esq. Chairman.

Feb. 4. They came to the following resolution:—"That whatever may be the issue of the present contest between the two parties in the House of Commons, we will steadily persevere in our endeavours to effect the object of this meeting, which has been unanimously approved and adopted by the House of Commons; namely, the procuring a firm, efficient, extended, united

administration, entitled to the confidence of the people; and such as may have a tendency to remove the unfortunate divisions and distractions of this country."

From this time to the 18th the gentlemen continued to meet occasionally, and had various conferences with Mr. Pitt and the Duke of Portland, which have not yet transpired. As far as we can collect, from the part which the chairman and other leading members took in the House of Commons, the opposition conceded every point in dispute, except the resignation of ministry, on which Mr. Pitt also continued inflexible. About the 12th, Mr. Grosvenor resigned the chair, and the Hon. Charles Marham, member for Kent, was chosen in his room. On the 13th it was proposed, and unanimously resolved, to return the thanks of the meeting to the Right Hon. Lord North and the Right Hon. Charles Fox, for their open, candid, and manly declarations of their willingness to conciliate the differences then subsisting.

On the 17th not more than thirty members attended. They sat upwards of four hours.

On the 18th, it was reported that all their efforts to prevail on Mr. Pitt to come to a negotiation on equal ground had failed, notwithstanding several of his conditions had been complied with in the most conciliatory manner—That his first objection to treating was, that he could never condescend to act with Lord North; when Lord North with great cheerfulness declared his readiness to retire to a private station—Then he said he could not agree to any compromise upon which the India bill of Mr. Fox was to be revived. Mr. Fox declared himself ready to moderate the provisions of that bill. He then stated, that his personal feelings would not suffer him to resign his post for the purpose of negotiating, and that no resolutions of the House of Commons could bring him to it. This was a ground which they could not desire men who valued the constitution of their country to recede from, and, therefore, their conciliatory endeavours were rendered fruitless. After passing a motion declaratory of their sentiments, they agreed to adjourn, *sine die*.

## STATE PAPER.

*Extract of a Despatch from Lord Caermarthen to Mr. Storer, and communicated by the latter to the Ambassadors of the United Provinces at Paris, the 4th of January, 1784.*

"IN the present situation of affairs between the two nations, it is most highly necessary that the States-General should be sensible of the King's desire to take every measure which may accord with his dignity, to convince the Republic of his cordial disposition to do every thing on his part to dissipate the appearance of coolness which might seem in the eyes of Europe to occasion the long delay of the reciprocal envoy of ministers to the two courts. For which reason I desire, according to the intention of his Majesty, that without loss of time you hasten to represent to the Dutch plenipotentiaries, for the information of the States-General, that whatever may be the resolution of their High High-

nesses, with regard to the place which shall be chosen for the conclusion of the Definitive Treaty, the King consents and wishes to send to the Hague a minister of equal rank with the person who shall be authorized to treat with him, and that his Majesty is disposed to do every thing that may demonstrate his inclination for the re-establishment of the perfect understanding and the sincere amity which have so happily subsisted during so many years, to the mutual advantage of the two nations, which induces him truly to desire that the nomination of the respective ministers may meet with the least delay possible."



## THE MONTHLY CHRONOLOGY.

THURSDAY, January 1, 1784.

**T**HE Archbishops and Bishops had the honour, according to annual custom, of addressing the King at his levee on that occasion, when his Majesty was pleased to make them the following most gracious answer:

"My lords, I return you my thanks for this dutiful and loyal address, and you may always depend upon my warmest zeal for, and constant protection of the church. I also return you my thanks for your congratulations on the commencement of the new year; the commencement of this year may probably be the most critical and important of any yet in the annals of this country: it has, from my accession to the throne of these realms, been my constant study equally to preserve the rights, liberties, and happiness of my people, with the prerogatives and rights which the constitution hath entrusted to me; it is my determined resolution to persevere in this conduct, in which I trust I may have the protection of the Almighty, and the support of every honest man in my dominions."

FRIDAY, 2.

The outer light-house on the Farn islands was swept away by the sea, in a heavy storm at south-east. A temporary light will be fixed on a swape in the innermost island but one, till the light-house is rebuilt.

SATURDAY, 3.

This day's Gazette contains his Majesty's proclamation, requiring passes formerly granted to ships and vessels trading in the way of cruizers belonging to government on the coast of Barbary, to be returned into the office of the Admiralty of Great-Britain, and other passes of different forms to be issued.

FRIDAY, 9.

A trial came on at the Sessions-House on Clerkenwell-Green, at the instance of the glass manufacturers of this kingdom, against an officer of his Majesty's customs, for seducing three artificers of that manufactory to emigrate to France; and the officer being convicted, was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment, and to pay a fine of 500*l*.

TUESDAY, 13.

An air-balloon, which had been exhibited by Mr. Biaggini at the Pantheon, was let off from Park-street, Grosvenor-square. The immense crowd of spectators of all ranks and descriptions, which repeated advertisements had collected, were not a little mortified by the haziness of the day. Owing to this it continued in sight about four minutes only. Mr. Biaggini, we believe, was the first since Montgolfier's successful experiment, and no experiment had succeeded before, who constructed an air-balloon in England, and turned to profit his own ingenuity and the curiosity of the public. They are now become a common spectacle in most parts of our island.

FRIDAY, 16.

About half past one o'clock, the Lord Mayor, accompanied by Aldermen Crosby, Townsend, Wilkes, Efdale, Lewes, Hart, Wright, Kitchen,

Gill, and Pickett, the two Sheriffs, the Recorder, the City-Remembrancer, Town-Clerk, City-Counsel, and about 60 common-councilmen, went from Guildhall to St. James's, and presented the following address to his Majesty:

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty,

The humble Address of the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common-Council assembled.

"Most Gracious Sovereign,

"WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in common-council assembled, consider it incumbent on us, at the present alarming moment, to approach the throne with renewed assurances of our most faithful and constant attachment to your Majesty's person and government.

"Your faithful citizens lately beheld with infinite concern the progress of a measure, which equally tended to encroach on the rights of your Majesty's crown, to annihilate the chartered rights of the East-India Company, and to raise a new power, unknown to this free government, and highly inimical to its safety.

"As this dangerous measure was warmly supported by your Majesty's late ministers, we heartily rejoice in their dismissal, and humbly thank your Majesty for exerting your prerogative in a manner so salutary and constitutional.

"It is impossible for us to consider that event without fresh admiration of the constitution handed down by our ancestors; and we trust, that in the well-compounded legislation of this kingdom there will ever be found some branch ready to defend the rights and liberties of the people, and to preserve inviolate the faith and honour of parliamentary engagements.

"Sire! the prerogatives of your Majesty's high office were annexed thereto for the good of the people; and we beg your Majesty will receive our earnest assurances that the citizens of London will always support the constitutional exercise of them to the utmost of their power.

"Highly sensible of your Majesty's paternal care and affection for your people, we pray the Almighty that you may long reign in peace over a free, and happy, and united nation."

To which his Majesty was pleased to return the following answer:

"I Thank you for this dutiful and affectionate address, and for the expressions of your attachment to my person, and your zeal for the excellent constitution of this country.

"My faithful citizens of London may always depend upon my earnest attention to the welfare of all my subjects, and may assure themselves, that in the exercise of the power with which I am invested by the constitution, I shall uniformly endeavour to promote the happiness and prosperity of my people."

They were all most graciously received, and had the honour of kissing his Majesty's hand.

His Majesty was pleased to confer the honour

of knighthood on Barnard Turner, Esq. one of the sheriffs.

MONDAY, 19.

Ended the session at the Old-Bailey, which began the 14th. Eighteen convicts received judgement of death, 44 were convicted of felonies, and 36 acquitted. The verdict against Daniel Hickman, convicted in October session of feloniously assaulting a gentleman, and by threats and menaces of charging him with an unnatural crime extorting from him a certain sum of money, was confirmed by the judges, and he received sentence of death.

WEDNESDAY, 21.

The following malefactors were executed facing Newgate, viz. Robert Dewar, for forging a seaman's will—Mary Moody, for stealing a large quantity of linen and wearing apparel—John Rich for stealing a quantity of apparel—Patrick Bowman, for robbing John Spicer, in a field at Bethnal-Green, and wounding him in a desperate manner. They all behaved very penitently.

The sheriffs have given orders to Mr. Akerman, not to suffer the body of any convict who has suffered execution to be removed from Newgate till after seven o'clock in the evening of the same day.

SATURDAY, 24.

This day's Gazette contains addresses from the city of Norwich, and boroughs of Leicester and Great Yarmouth, thanking his Majesty for the dismissal of the late ministry, as the common enemies of the monarch's dignity and the people's rights, and conceived throughout in the same style.

SUNDAY, 25.

The following instance of barbarity was discovered:—A tradesman in St. John's, Westminster took a poor girl from one of the workhouses as an apprentice: last Friday, having been guilty of a trifling fault, the man and his wife beat her inhumanly, and afterwards shut her up in the cellar, where she remained till noon this day, when she was discovered, by some lodgers, sitting on a stone, with her hands resting on her thighs, up to the knees in water, occasioned by the spring tides, and frozen to death. On Monday the master was committed for trial.

MONDAY 26.

At half past twelve o'clock, the sheriffs met at Guildhall, on the hustings, in order to declare the numbers for a representative of this city, in the room of Frederick Bull, Esq. when there appeared for

Brooke Watson, Esq. 2097

Alderman Croiby 1043

Upon which Brooke Watson, Esq. was declared duly elected.

TUESDAY 27.

This day's Gazette contains an address from the freeholders of Middlesex, most humbly imploring his Majesty to appoint such an administration as may possess the confidence of parliament and the public.

Also addresses from the city of Canterbury, the borough of Southwark, and towns of Leicester and Ipswich, congratulating his Majesty on the dismissal of the late ministry and his choice of the present.

THE LORD MAYOR called the attention of

the Court of Aldermen to the miserable scene that has lately presented itself in almost every street of the metropolis, of a number of Lascars begging for the common necessities of life in a country to which their language is unknown, and who have no other mode of relating their distress but by gesticulations. His lordship remarked, that these poor wretches had frequently been brought before him for committing acts of vagrancy, which subjected them to punishment in Bridewell, but when an interpreter happened to be assisting in explaining circumstances, the Blacks pleaded necessity for the act, and that they had no food or habitation—that they were brought over in an East-India ship, wrecked in the voyage to England, and could neither get their wages nor a passage to their own climate.

The captain of the ship being called in, told a case widely different in all points. He said that humanity had been grossly imposed upon respecting these men, who had evaded every effort for restoring them to their country; that from the moment of their arrival, he had boarded and lodged them at Stepney, and paid 9s. a week for 40, so that they cost him 18l. a week; that he had provided a vessel, and offered to pay them six instead of four months wages, provided they would go back; that in their way to the vessel they escaped, and strolled about the streets, asking charity, which had proved to them a very profitable employment, some getting near two guineas a day, which they spent with the lowest prostitutes in the neighbourhood of Stepney, from whose habitations many were taken in a state of actual insensibility through intoxication; that bond in a very heavy penalty was given in their own country for returning these men; and that he wished most sincerely for the aid of the magistrates of London, to apprehend and secure them on board the ship now ready to receive them.

The court advised him to apply to the magistrates at the Rotation in Whitechapel, to apprehend and pass them to their own country, as it did not appear that they were under the jurisdiction of the city magistrates.

FRIDAY, 30.

At twelve o'clock the Lord Chancellor, accompanied by some of the Bishops, went from the House of Peers to Westminster-Abbey, and heard a sermon from the Bishop of Llandaff. Not one of the temporal lords was present: after the service he returned to the House of Lords, and adjourned that House to Monday.—The Speaker of the House of Commons also went to St. Margaret's church, and heard a sermon from their chaplain.

TUESDAY, February 3.

This day's gazette contains addresses to his Majesty from the cities of Westminster, York, and Exeter; the boroughs of Lancaster, Reading, Evesham, and the town of Colchester, expressing their thanks to his Majesty for the removal of the late ministry.

THURSDAY, 5.

The following address from the House of Peers was presented to his Majesty by the Lords with white staves:

“ To



## " To the KING.

" We acknowledge, with great satisfaction, the wisdom of our happy constitution, which places in your Majesty's hands the undoubted authority of appointing to all the great offices of executive government. We have the firmest reliance in your Majesty's known wisdom and paternal goodness, that you will be anxious to call into, and continue in your service, men the most deserving of the confidence of the parliament, and the public in general.

" In this confidence, we beg leave to approach your Majesty with our most earnest assurances, that we will, upon all occasions, support your Majesty in the just exercise of those prerogatives which the wisdom of the law has entrusted to your Majesty, for the preservation of our lives and properties, and upon the due and uninterrupted exercise of which must depend the blessings which the people derive from the best of all forms of government."

To which his Majesty returned the following answer :

" My Lords,

" I thank you for this dutiful and loyal address; and I desire you will rest assured that I have no object in the choice of ministers, but to call into my service men the most deserving of the confidence of my parliament, and of the public in general. I cannot too often repeat my assurances, that my constant study in the exercise of every prerogative entrusted to me by the constitution, is to employ it for the welfare of my people."

SATURDAY, 7.

This day's Gazette contains addresses to his Majesty from the city of Exeter, the boroughs of Sudbury, Plymouth, and Launceston, the town of Wolverhampton, burgh of Dyfart, and county of Perth in Scotland; also the town of Belfast in Ireland, in which they express their satisfaction on the dismissal of the late ministry.

TUESDAY, 10.

This day's Gazette contains addresses to his Majesty from the city of New Sarum; from the towns of Berwick upon Tweed, Preston, Chipping Wycombe, and Chippenham on the same subject, and in the same style with the preceding.

SATURDAY 14.

This day's Gazette contains addresses to the King from the cities of Winchester and Oxford, borough of the Devises, town and port of Hythe, borough of Leeds, inhabitants of Leeds, inhabitants of Halifax in the West Riding of Yorkshire, borough of Rippon in Yorkshire, town of Wakefield in the same county, borough of Lancaster, town of Kingston upon Hull, borough of Cambridge, and Newcastle-under-Lyme, town of Northampton, and boroughs of Tiverton and Westbury, on the late changes in the ministry, &c.

TUESDAY, 17.

This day's Gazette also contains addresses to his Majesty from the cities of Bath, Worcester, and Litchfield; the town of Birmingham; borough of Honiton; port of Dartmouth; and borough of Clifton Dartmouth Hardness in Devonshire, thanking his Majesty for the dismissal of the late ministry; and from the town of Trowbridge, expressing their sincere attachment to

Feb. 1784.

his Majesty, and their confidence in his administration.

SATURDAY, 21.

The poor of this metropolis, and of most other places in the kingdom, were delivered from a very grievous calamity by the dissolution of the frost which began here on Christmas day. It was a new moon on the 20th, at eight at night, and the thaw commenced a few hours after. How far the two events were connected, we leave the careful meteorologist to determine. During this dreary season the distresses of the poor were great, and it is but justice to the humanity of the times to add, that, besides the silent donations of private charity, many liberal subscriptions were made for their relief. The cold was often the most intense perhaps ever felt in this island; though the temperature of the air was very variable. The snow lay in many parts of the country to such a depth, as to render the roads impassable. This frost was not confined to England. It extended over all Europe north of the Alps, except by Geneva, Lyon, and along the Po and the Rhone. Along the Danube, at Vienna, at Prague, at Warsaw, where the Vistula was frozen over, and at Paris, where the streets were covered with snow, many persons, as well as here, fell victims to its rigour. In the Rhine the ice was sixteen feet thick. Bodies of it accumulated to such a height in the Maese, as to change the course of the river, which overflowed a great number of villages. The city of Maestricht was inundated to such a degree, that it could be entered only by the gates of Tongres and Brussels. The thaw was the mildest we remember.

SHERIFFS appointed by his Majesty in Council for the year 1784, viz.

Berksh. Cha. Dalbiac, of Hungerford-Park, Esq.  
Bedfordsh. Wm. Goldsmith, of Streatly, Esq.  
Bucks. Rich. Scrimshire, of Amerham, Esq.  
Cumberland. John Christian, of Unerig, Esq.  
Cheshire. Thom. Willis, of Swettenham, Esq.  
Camb' and Hunt'. T. Shephard, of March, Esq.  
Cornwall. Jos. Beauchamp, of Pengreep, Esq.  
Devonshire. Thomas Lane, of Cotteet, Esq.  
Dorsetshire. Isaac Sage, of Thornhill, Esq.  
Derbyshire. John Radford, of Smalley, Esq.  
Essex. Robert Preston, of Woodford, Esq.  
Glo'stersh. Giles Greenaway, of Barrington, Esq.  
Hertfordsh. J. T. Ellis, of Widiall-Hall, Esq.  
Herefordsh. Ja. Walwyn, of Longworth, Esq.  
Kent. Charles Booth, of Steed-Hill, Esq.  
Leicestersh. C. Grave Hudson, of Wanlip, Esq.  
Lincolnsh. George William Johnson, of Witham on the Hill, Esq.  
Monmouthsh. Chr. Chambre, of Llanfoist, Esq.  
Northumberland. Sir F. Blake, of Fowbray, Bart.  
Northamptonsh. Rich. Kirby, of Floore, Esq.  
Norfolk. Sir Tho. Durrant, of Scottowe, Bart.  
Nottinghamsh. Pendock Neale, of Tollerton, Esq.  
Oxfordsh. Arth. Annesley, of Bletchington, Esq.  
Rutlandshire. John Hawkins, of Brooke, Esq.  
Shropshire. William Child, of Kinlett, Esq.  
Somersetshire. Andrew Guy, of Enmore, Esq.  
Staffordshire. John Edensor Heathcote, of Longton, Esq.  
Suffolk. John Wenyve, of Brettenham, Esq.  
Southampton. Sir J. Carter, of Portsmouth, Knt.  
Surrey. William Aldersey, of Stoke, near Guildford, Esq.

Y

Suffex.

" To

Suffex. Thomas Dennet, of Ashurst, Esq.  
 Warwicksh. Fran. Burdett, of Bramcote, Esq.  
 Worcestershire. Thomas Bund, of Wick, Esq.  
 Wiltsh. Wm. Chafin Grove, of Zeals, Esq.  
 Yorkshire. William Danby, of Swinton, Esq.

## SOUTH WALES.

Brecon. Edmund Williams, of Tymawr, Esq.  
 Caermarthen. Robert Banks Hodgkinson, of  
 Edwinstford, Esq.  
 Cardigan. Wm. Williams, of Cardigan, Esq.  
 Glamorgan. John Richards, of Energlyn, Esq.  
 Pembroke. John Protheroe, of Egermont, Esq.  
 Radnor. Bulhe Shelley, of Michaelchurch, Esq.

## NORTH WALES.

Anglesey. T. Ashton Smith, of Trefarthyn, Esq.  
 Caernarvon. Robert Wynne, of Llanerch, Esq.  
 Denbigh. John Ellis, of Eyton, Esq.  
 Flint. Thomas Patton, of Flint, Esq.  
 Merioneth. David Roberts, of Blaenyddol, Esq.  
 Montgomeryshire. Bell Lloyd, of Bodfach, Esq.

## LENT ASSISES. 1784.

## HOME CIRCUIT.

Mr. Justice Ashurst and Mr. Justice Gould.  
 Hertfordshire. Wednesday, Mar. 3, at Hertford.  
 Essex. Monday 8, at Chelmsford.  
 Kent. Monday 15, at Maidstone.  
 Suffex. Monday 22, at East-Grinstead.  
 Surrey. Wedn. 24, at Kingston-upon-Thames.

## NORFOLK CIRCUIT.

Lord Loughborough and Mr. Justice Nares.  
 Bucks. Monday, March 8, at Aylesbury.  
 Bedfordshire. Thursday 11, at Bedford.  
 Huntingdonshire. Saturday 13, at Huntingdon.  
 Cambridgeshire. Tuesday 16, at Cambridge.  
 Norfolk. Friday 19, at Thetford.  
 Suffolk. Tuesday 23, at Bury St. Edmund's.

## OXFORD CIRCUIT.

Mr. Justice Heath and Mr. Justice Buller.  
 Berkshire. Monday, March 1, at Reading.  
 Oxfordshire. Wednesday 3, at Oxford.  
 Worcestershire. Saturday 6, at Worcester.  
 City of Worcester. Same day, at Worcester.  
 Staffordshire. Monday 8, at Stafford.  
 Shropshire. Saturday 13, at Shrewsbury.  
 Herefordshire. Thursday 18, at Hereford.  
 Monmouthshire. Monday 22, at Monmouth.  
 Gloucestershire. Wednesday 24, at Gloucester.  
 City of Gloucester. Same day, city of Gloucester.

## MIDLAND CIRCUIT.

Lord Chief Baron Skynner and Mr. Baron Eyre.  
 Northamptonshire. March 2, at Northampton.  
 Rutlandshire. March 5, at Oakham.  
 Lincolnshire. March 6, City of Lincoln.  
 Nottinghamshire. March 11, at Nottingham.  
 Town of Nottingham. Same day, at Nottingham.  
 Derbyshire. March 15, at Derby.  
 Leicestershire. March 17, at the Castle of Leicester.

Borough of Leicester. Same day, at the Borough of Leicester.

City of Coventry. March 19, at Coventry.

Warwickshire. March 20, at Warwick.

## WESTERN CIRCUIT.

Mr. Baron Perryn and Mr. Baron Hotham.  
 Southampton. Tuesday, March 2, Castle of Winchester.  
 Wilts. Saturday 6, at New Sarum.

Dorset. Wednesday 10, at Dorchester.

Devon. Monday 15, Castle of Exeter.

City and County of Exeter. Same day, at the Guildhall of the said city.

Cornwall. Saturday 20, at Launceston.

Somerset. Thursday 25, Castle of Taunton.

## NORTHERN CIRCUIT.

Earl Mansfield and Mr. Justice Willes.  
 City and County of York. Saturday, March 6, at the Guildhall of the said city.

Yorkshire. Same day, at the Castle of York.

Lancashire. Tuesday 23, Castle of Lancaster.

## CHESTER CIRCUIT.

Hon. Lloyd Kenyon and Hon. Daines Barrington.  
 Montgomeryshire. Thursday, April 1, at Welch Pool.

Denbighshire. Wednesd. April 7, at Wrexham.

Flintshire. Tuesday, April 13, at Mold.

Cheshire. Monday, April 19, at Chester.

## NORTH WALES CIRCUIT.

James Hayes, Esq. Thomas Potter, Esq.  
 Anglesey. Wednesd. March 31, at Beaumaris.

Caernarvonshire. Tuesd. April 6, at Conway.

Merionethshire. Monday, April 12, at Bala.

## CAERMARTHEN CIRCUIT.

William Beard, Esq. Archibald Macdonald, Esq.  
 Caermarthenshire. Wednesday, March 24, at Caermarthen.

County Borough of Caermarthen. Same day.

Pembrokeshire. Tuesday, March 30, at Haverfordwest.

Town and County of Haverfordwest. Same day.

Cardiganshire. Monday, April 5, at Cardigan.

## BRECON CIRCUIT.

John Williams, Esq. Abel Moysey, Esq.  
 Radnorshire. Monday, March 29, at Presteign.  
 Breconshire. Saturday, April 3, at Brecon.  
 Glamorgansh. Saturday, April 10, at Cowbridge.

## EAST-INDIES.

Feb. 12.

A Despatch arrived from India. It was dated the 7th of October, arrived at Bussora the 2d of December, and brought advice, that all the outward-bound ships had arrived safe. It further said, that the news of the peace had reached India on the 2d of July, and was communicated to Tippoo-Saib in his camp before Mangalore, on the 18th, who, finding that he was no longer to be assisted by the French, between whom and the English hostilities immediately ceased, thought proper to conclude a cessation of hostilities with Col. Campbell, who commanded in Mangalore, in the walls of which Tippoo-Saib had made a practicable breach, when the news of the peace reached him. The terms on which the cessation was concluded were, that all things, both within and without Mangalore, should remain in the same condition in which they then were. In a few days after Gen. M'Leod arrived near Mangalore, with a strong re-enforcement for the relief of the garrison; but hearing of the cessation of hostilities, and the terms on which it was concluded, he threw no succours into the place; but desired a personal interview with Tippoo-Saib, which accordingly took place. That Prince told the General he wished most ardently for peace; but was afraid



of giving umbrage to the French who were about him; and, therefore, requested General M'Leod to go to Seringapatam (his capital) where all the English prisoners in his hands should be delivered up to him; and he wished they would then proceed immediately to Madras, for the purpose of negotiating a peace for him. All this was accordingly done, "and there is now every reason to presume the Company is completely restored to all its possessions in India."

#### AMERICA.

**T**HE final evacuation of New-York by his Majesty's troops took place on the 25th of November, when it was delivered up to the American governour, George Clinton, Esq. who took possession of it in due form, with some companies of New-York militia, amounting to about 550 men, which are to continue there as the garrison, till further arrangements are made by the American government.

The last of the British troops embarked from Long Island on the 3d of December, and sailed on the 5th. America, now free and independent, unlettered by the local politicks which confines to partial objects the attention of European states, has it in her power to expand her views to commerce universal and unrestrained, and presents a noble object for the observation of the historian and the philosopher. Posterity will see what effects such great and unlimited prospects will produce in the human mind.

#### FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

*Algier, Nov. 10.*

**T**HIS town was yesterday thrown into the greatest confusion by a conspiracy against the Bey. The principal conspirators have been discovered, and put to death, after undergoing the severest tortures, in order to know the motives which induced them to this horrible attempt; but they were not able to extort any sort of confession from them.

*Cherson, Nov. 20.* The plague has not ceased its ravages, though its malignity lessens. They reckoned 16,000 to have died here and at Gloubakow, a port situated at the mouth of the Nieper. In the last mentioned place every inhabitant was carried off, except seven or eight people.

*Madrid, Dec. 5.* We learn from the village of Alduluduli, near Almeria (in the kingdom of Murcia) that a disastrous accident happened there on the 29th of October: part of the mountain which commands that village (named the mountain of the Moors) opened in two parts, and tumbled down with a terrible noise, burying in its fall 27 houses, in which six men and women and six children remained dead.

*Naples, Dec. 6.* Besides the earthquakes which have desolated Calabria, and which are still felt in divers places, the unhappy inhabitants of this province are experiencing the scourge of epidemic disorders, owing to those disasters, and the consequent want of every necessary.

*Madrid, Dec. 10.* The reduction of the monasteries of this kingdom is at last deter-

mined upon, for which purpose the King has published an ordinance, containing 25 articles, to which is added a list of the convents to be suppressed or united to others.

The Emperor of Germany has legitimated all children born of illegitimate marriages; and has forbidden, under pain of severe fines, the further use of that part of some breviaries containing the lessons of Gregory VII. on the right of the Popes to depose Emperors. These manuscripts had been forbidden before, but the order had not been observed.

The Great Duke of Tuscany has published an edict, ordering bishops to present to ecclesiastical preferments, without consulting any other power whatever, reserving only the rights of private persons.

The Archbishop of Paris has given out a mandement or pastoral address on account of the peace: it is considered as a masterly composition, and concludes with the following words: "May the fortunate peace we have Heaven now to thank for never be interrupted! May for ever be forgot that fatal rivalry, which for many centuries has cost so much blood and sorrow to two nations that have the truest esteem for each other; may it be succeeded by the noblest emulation between them of improving the arts and sciences, and extend daily the circumscribed limits of human knowledge; may France and England be for ever united for the glory of Europe, and the welfare of all mankind!"

The losses sustained and complained of by two Dutch merchants, Chomel and Jourdan (who have some debts to claim from various merchants at Venice, but from which they were debarred by a partial decree of the senate of that republic) engross the immediate attention of the States-General. By their resolutions of the 9th of January, orders have been given to lay a general embargo on all Venetian ships now within any of the ports belonging to the republic. The ship *Il Cornere Martimo* is particularly pointed out, and ordered to be detained, if found, and its cargo sold, for indemnifying the above merchants; ordering at the same time, that a large squadron be sent out into the Mediterranean for the protection of the Dutch traders, as this would, perhaps, make some useful impression on the Venetians. By the same resolution it is also provided, that Chomel and Jourdan shall deliver a faithful account of all their just claims upon the subjects of the republic, and the question be put to the vote, whether the said complainants, after their demands shall have been fairly stated and vouched to by the aldermen of Amsterdam, ought not to be authorized to seize on the effects of all and every Venetian who may be found in the Dutch territories.

It seems that the Venetians had submitted the whole matter to the arbitration of the Court of Vienna; but the Emperor having declined his interference as a mediating power, their High Mightinesses thought it necessary for them to show their resentment against the Venetians. At the instigation, and by the advice of the Dutch Ambassador at Vienna, Comte de Walsenaar, their High Mightinesses have come to

the above resolution, but before it was put in force, the Deputies of Utrecht expressing themselves against so abrupt a measure, it was agreed that Mynheer de Berkenrode, Ambassador from the United Provinces at the Court of Versailles, should apprise the Venetian minister at that place, to see whether he would not show, on the part of his masters, some disposition to give to their High Mightinesses the satisfaction they had a right to expect. Thus far has been carried an affair which if not speedily adjusted may occasion a very serious rupture between these two powerful republics.

*Hague, Jan. 12.* The States of Holland and West Friesland, which assembled last Friday, will continue their deliberations till next Wednesday. We learn that the States-General, not being yet able to obtain the satisfaction their High Mightinesses had a right to expect from the republic of Venice, touching the affair of Messrs. Chomel and Jourdan, have requested the Prince Stadtholder, in quality of admiral-general, to expedite orders to Vice-Admiral Reint, who is cruising with a squadron in the Mediterranean, to seize all the Venetian ships he may meet with, till their High Mightinesses receive full satisfaction from the republic of Venice, in regard to this matter.

*Amsterdam, Jan. 13.* Orders have been sent to the Texel, to equip immediately the Rhynlandt of 40 guns, Snoek of 26, and Zwickten of 24, for the Mediterranean, in addition to the squadron now there, under Admiral Jan Reint, a rupture being expected with the republic of Venice, who, we hear, are fitting out several ships of war.

*Constantinople, Jan. 10.* The plague still continues, but it is hoped that the present remarkably cold weather will destroy the infection.

*Hague, Jan. 19.* Monday the 12th inst. their High Mightinesses resolved, by a majority of six provinces, finally to decline the proposition of the Duke of Manchester, for carrying on the negotiations for peace at London or the Hague.

*Paris, Jan. 30.* During the last year, the number of baptisms in this city amounted to 19,688, that of marriages to 5213; the deaths amount to 20,010, and there were 5715 foundling children taken into the hospital.

*St. James's, Feb. 11.* A messenger arrived this morning from his Excellency Sir Robert Ainslie, his Majesty's ambassador at Constantinople, with an account of the pacification between Russia and the Ottoman Porte being happily accomplished; and that a definitive arrangement was signed by Mons. de Bulgakow, the Russian envoy, and the Ottoman ministers, on the 8th of last month.

*Treaty of Peace between Russia and the Porte.*

THE Imperial Court and the Sublime Ottoman Porte, desirous of seizing every occasion which can tend to conciliate and establish a perfect harmony and friendship between the two powers; and considering the new face of affairs and state of things in the Crimea; at Taman, and in Cuba, are likely to occasion discussion, and perhaps a rupture between the two powers, the above Imperial and Ottoman courts have resolved to come to a friendly negotiation on the said subject, and after having duly weighed

and considered them, are ardently desirous of preventing for the future any subject of contention between them, and also the advantages of a solid and happy peace, of good neighbourhood and established commerce, have found it necessary to regulate their future measures upon a solid and permanent foundation.

In consequence of these resolutions, the above powers having fully explained themselves each to the other on the above subjects, and desirous of stipulating the present treaty under the most solemn engagements and exact observance, have chosen, and furnished with full powers to complete the said treaty, the following persons; namely, her Imperial Majesty, the most august and most powerful Empress and Sovereign of all the Russias, has named, on her part, the high and noble Jaques de Bullakow, her envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Sublime Ottoman Porte, counsellor of state, and knight of the orders of Saint Waldimir and Saint Stanislas; and his Majesty the Sultan Ottoman has nominated, on his part, the most honoured and most esteemed Vizir Kasim Pacha, his grand admiral, Stambul Cadisi, actual Cadaskir of Natolia, Musti Zade-Ahmed Effendi, and his grand chancellor, the actual Hadgi Mustafa Effendi, which plenipotentiaries aforesaid, after having mutually exchanged their credentials in due form, have signed and sealed the following articles:

Art. I. That the treaty of peace of 1774, the convention of the limits of boundaries of 1771, the explanatory convention of 1779, and the treaty of commerce of 1783, shall continue to be strictly and inviolably observed in all their points and articles, save and except the 3d and 4th article of the explanatory convention of 1779, which said articles shall be of no longer weight or obligatory force between the two empires.

But as in the aforesaid 3d article of the said treaty of 1774, it is declared, that the fortress of Oczakow, with all its ancient territories, shall belong as formerly to the Sublime Porte, this declaration shall continue in full force and weight, and continue still to be observed as therein set forth.

Art. II. It is hereby declared, that the Imperial court of Russia shall never lay claim to the rights that the Kan of Tartary have formed upon the fortress of Sondjone-Cale, and consequently the court of Russia acknowledges the full and sole possession to be in the Ottoman Porte.

Art. III. That in admitting the river Cuba to be the frontier of Cuba, the said Imperial court, at the same time, renounces her pretensions to all the Tartar nations beyond the above river, and from the Black Sea.

And it is hereby also definitively agreed, that this act, as well on the part of her Imperial Majesty, the most august and powerful Empress of all the Russias, as well as on the part of his Highness the Sultan Ottoman, agreed and confirmed by solemn ratifications, signed and written in the accustomed manner, shall be exchanged at Constantinople, in the space of four months, or sooner if possible, to reckon from the day of the conclusion of the said treaty, of which their plenipotentiaries

1784  
plenip  
parts,  
with  
tween  
Do  
day of  
(S)

By  
acquir  
isle of  
but an  
Black  
the co  
the ad  
and d  
Crime

Dec.  
24.  
Byam  
Bland  
Hon.  
Lady  
Robert  
Admir  
ter.—  
Right  
—28.  
Lady  
Count  
Lady  
of Lon  
France  
the Ho

Dec.  
18.  
Lincol  
survivi  
of Wil  
Adolph  
France  
Bootle,  
of Guf  
to Miss  
Frome  
Capt. V  
Miss M  
Valenti  
Right  
Charles  
jesty's  
Jan. 2.  
Bart. to  
John T  
Miss M  
the Rev  
Priest V  
Wild,  
of Fing  
eldest d  
the Rev  
a Som



plenipotentiaries have made their proper counterparts, signed with their hand writings, sealed with their seals, and mutually exchanged between them.

Done and signed at Constantinople, this 9th day of January, 1784.

(Signed) **JACQUES DE BULLAKOW**,  
Plenipotentiary from the Empress of Russia,  
and by the Ottoman plenipotentiaries  
above named.

By the preceding treaty, the Empress of Russia acquires not only the empire of the Crimea, the isle of Taman, and a considerable part of Cuba, but an incontestible right to the empire of the Black Sea, and thereby the future controul of the commerce of Constantinople, by which also she adds 1,500,000 new subjects to her empire, and deprives Turkey of the resources which Crimea furnished for the supply of the cavalry.

### BIRTHS.

**Dec.** **H**ER Serene Highness the Princess of Wirtemberg, a princess.—Lady of Byam Martin, Esq. a son.—26. Lady of James Bland Burges, Esq. a daughter.—**Jan.** 2. Right Hon. Lady Kinnaird, a son.—11. Right Hon. Lady Diana Fleming, a daughter.—Lady of Robert Nicholas, Esq. one of the daughters of Admiral Sir Thomas Frankland, Bart. a daughter.—12. Lady George Murray, a son.—15. Right Hon. Lady Amelia M'Leod, a daughter.—28. Lady of Sir Harry Gough, a son.—30. Lady Algernon Percy, two sons.—**Feb.** 2. Countess of Westmorland, a son and heir.—3. Lady of Sir Hugh Dalrymple, a son.—11. Lady of Lord Maitland, a son and heir.—16. Lady Frances Douglas, a daughter.—19. Lady of the Hon. William Grimston, a daughter.

### MARRIAGES.

**Dec.** **H**ENRY CUMBREY, Esq. of Stamford, captain in the Royal South Lincolnshire militia, to Miss Norrison, only surviving daughter of Rospin Norrison, Esq. late of Willerby, in Yorkshire.—20. Anthony Adolphus Eyre, Esq. of the guards, to Miss Frances Bootle, daughter of Richard Wilbraham Bootle, Esq.—22. The Rev. Mr. Howell, rector of Gussage St. Michael, in the county of Dorset, to Miss Randel.—23. Capt. Robert Wilton, of Fromesfield, to Miss Elisabeth Rogers.—Capt. William Chambers, of the Royal Navy, to Miss Mead.—Lately, in Dublin, Lord Viscount Valentia, to Miss Cavendish, daughter of the Right Hon. Sir Henry Cavendish, Bart.—Charles Edwards Conyers, Esq. captain in his Majesty's marine forces, to Miss Susannah Scott.—**Jan.** 2. In Scotland, Sir James Sinclair, of Mey, Bart. to Miss Jean Campbell.—3. In Bristol, Mr. John Thomas, of Temple Parish, aged 70, to Miss Mary Nuss, aged 16.—5. At Litchfield, the Rev. Richard George Robinson, one of the Priest Vicars of that cathedral, to Miss Hannah Wild, of Litchfield.—9. Col. Thomas Dundas, of Fingask, to Lady Elisabeth Eleonora Home, eldest daughter of the Earl of Home.—At Oitend, the Rev. Thomas Bere, A. B. rector of Butcombe, in Somersetshire, to Miss Box, only daughter of

John Box, Esq. of Wrington, in the same county.—The Rev. Mr. Crossman, who holds the living of Monckton, with that of Blagdon, in Somersetshire, to Miss Brickdale, daughter of Matthew Brickdale, Esq. one of the representatives in parliament for Bristol.—11. John Mackle, Esq. M. D. to Miss Deschamps.—15. Major Thompson, of the 13th regiment of foot, to Miss Jubb, daughter of Henry Jubb, Esq. of York.—16. Mr. Arthur Stanhope, cousin of Lord Chesterfield, to Miss Thistlethwaite, sister of Lady Chesterfield.—19. John Peachy, Esq. member of parliament for Shoreham, in Suffolk, to Miss Jennings, only daughter of George Jennings, Esq. of Audley-square.—Sir John Reade, Bart. of Shipton, in Oxfordshire, to Miss Hoskins, daughter of the late Sir Chandos Hoskyns, Bart. of Harewood, in Hertfordshire.—Mr. Barnes, of the Surrey militia, to Miss Ardley, only daughter of John Ardley, Esq. late of Farnham, in Surrey.—26. Edward Horlock Mortimer, Esq. of Trowbridge, to Miss Bythessea, only daughter of the late Thomas Bythessea, of Week.—27. Mr. Potts, surgeon, in Pall-Mall, to Miss Thorpe, daughter of John Thorpe, Esq. of Bexley, in Kent.—29. William Falkner, Esq. one of the clerks of the Council, to Miss Poyntz, niece of the Countess Dowager of Spenser.—Lately, the Rev. Mr. Westcomb, of Winchester, to Miss Sarah Kinsman.—**Feb.** 5. At Earl Gower's house at Whitehall, the Hon. and Rev. Edward Venables Vernon, to the Hon. Lady Anne Leveson Gower.—10. Oswald Mosley, Esq. eldest son of Sir John Parker Mosley, Bart. of Amcoats, in Lancashire, to Miss Tonman.—Lately, George Parkhurst, Esq. of Winchester, to Lady Boynton, relict of Sir Griffith Boynton, Bart.

### DEATHS.

**A**T Madras, in April last, Capt. Wm. Elliot, in the Hon. East-India Company's service.—**Nov.** 1. At Upsal, Charles Linnæus, Professor of Botany, aged 45 years; he was the only remaining descendant of the celebrated Professor of that name: he had employed two years in travelling through France, England, and Holland, in company with Mess. Banks and Jussien, in order to gather together all the posthumous works of his father, to which he was adding many valuable notes when he received the awful summons to leave this world.—**Dec.** 11. At Corke, Col. Townshend, the petitioning candidate against Lord Kingsborough, the returned member for the county of Corke.—23. James Hargrave, Esq. formerly captain in the 55th regiment of foot, and major of brigade in North-Britain.—Mrs. Vernon, sister to the late Lord Shipbrooke, and to General Vernon.—24. At Paris, Anne Peter Marthal Duke of Harcourt. He was born in the year 1701, had a regiment of dragoons in 1733, and was made Marechal de Camp in 1743; lieutenant-general in 1748; and had the order of the Holy Ghost in 1756, and in 1764 obtained the government of Normandy. In 1771, he was created marshal of France, and commander in chief in the province of which he was governor.—27. In Scotland, Mrs. Eleanor Hamilton, daughter of the late Lord

Lord Basil Hamilton, and relict of John Murray, of Philiphaugh, Esq.—Thomas Bowyer, Esq. of Tudhoe-hall, only son of the late worthy and learned printer; by whose death, unmarried, 3000*l.* Reduced Annuities, bequeathed by his father contingently to the Company of Stationers for the benefit of six aged printers, becomes secured to them in perpetuity.—28. The Rev. Mr. Vaughan, vicar of Devynnock, in the county of Brecon.—Daniel Wray, Esq. in the 82*d* year of his age: he was many years deputy-teller of the Exchequer, under the Earl of Hardwicke, and resigned about two years ago, when the constant attendance at the office became troublesome to him. He was punctual and exact in business. He was an excellent critic in the English language; an accomplished judge of polite literature, of virtue, and the fine arts, and deservedly a member of most of our learned societies, the Royal, the British Museum, the Antiquarian, &c. at all of which, as long as his health permitted, he gave constant attendance: he was a member of Queen's-College, Cambridge, and in his younger days had made the tour of France and Italy with two respectable friends, the son of Lord Chancellor King, and the Earl of Morton.—Mr. Young, assistant-surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.—*Jan. 1.* At his seat in Dorsetshire, the Hon. John Damer, brother to Lord Milton.—2. Charles Rogers, Esq. F. R. & A. S. S. clerk of the certificates in the Customs.—3. The Rev. Dr. Griffith, rector of St. Mary at Hill, and lecturer of St. Michael's, Cornhill.—Mr. Ackland, Deputy-Filer and Exigenter to the Court of King's-Bench.—4. Edward Hillierdon, Esq. of Sewardstone, in Essex.—5. Griffin Ransom, Esq. father to the Right Hon. Lady Kinnaird.—7. Of a sudden pain in his breast, as he was returning to his house in Bishopsgate-street, Dr. Joseph Jefferies, LL. D. lecturer of Civil Law at Gresham College, over the Royal Exchange.—8. Mr. Thomas Deletanville, many years teacher of the French and Latin Languages, and author of the New French Dictionary, Exercises, &c.—The Rev. Matthias Jackson, rector of the Carletons, near Norwich, and of Stratton Strawless, in Norfolk.—9. Frederick Bull, Esq. one of the representatives in parliament for the city of London, and alderman of Queenhithe ward.—In the 57*th* year of his age, Sir George Savile Bart. The character of this gentleman has been long and deservedly so very respectable, that any further eulogy to his memory is altogether unnecessary.—11. At his seat near Cogges-hall, in Essex, Osgood Hanbury, Esq.—Lieut. General Jorden Wren, aged 90, Colonel of the 41*st* regiment of foot.—Henry Cottrell, Esq. of York, who a few months since arrived from India, after a residence of 21 years in the Company's service. He was third in council, and late chief of Dacca.—12. The Rev. John Blackiston, vicar of Cane-down, in Essex.—The Right Hon. Sir Edward Walpole, K. B. Clerk of the Pells in Ireland, and one of his Majesty's most honourable Privy-council in that kingdom.—In St. Alkmund's parish, Derby, John Smith, in the 105*th* year of his age.—13. Robert Francis, Gent. attorney at law, upwards of 40 years register of the Arch-deacon of Norfolk's office.—In Scotland; aged

89, William Aikman, Esq. of Broomleton.—14. Mr. Young, surveyor in his Majesty's Excise.—15. In the 80*th* year of her age, the Countess Dowager of Hume. Her ladyship has left the bulk of her estate and her elegant house in Portman-square, to a Mr. Gale, a relation of her ladyship, and a minor; also a small estate in Jamaica to the Hon. James Luttrell, a relation of her first husband. Several legacies in money to a number of her friends; but the chief part of her great income being only a jointure from her first husband, brother to Lady Viscountess Carhampton, near seven thousand a year devolves to Lord Viscount Carhampton, father to the Dukes of Cumberland.—16. Mr. John Nicassius Russel, of the New-Annuity-Office, South-Sea-House.—In the 94*th* year of his age, Carew Harvey Mildway, Esq. He has left one only daughter, a maiden lady, whom he had by his first wife, sole heiress of — Eastment, Esq. of Sherbone, in the county of Dorset, and who succeeds him in his immense possessions. He afterwards married Miss Edith Phelps, daughter of Sir Edward Phelps, of Montacute in the county of Somerset. This extraordinary person was one of the representatives for Harwich in the beginning of the present century, and was supposed to be the only remaining member of Queen Anne's parliament. He spent the greater part of his life at the court of Hanover, and was a particular favourite of the Princess Sophia. On his return to England, such was the reputation of his extensive abilities, that his acquaintance was sought by all the great men of that age. He was the much esteemed friend of Lord Bolingbroke, and was intimately connected with Lord Bathurst, Sir William Wyndham, Pope, Addison, &c. He had a principal hand in composing the Craftsman, Guardian, and other periodical papers of that time. Of so singular a turn of mind was he, that, although he was often pressed to accept the greatest civil offices, he constantly refused, choosing rather to preserve the untainted character of an independent country gentleman; nor was he ever known to ask the most trifling favour, because he would lay himself under no obligation. He retained all his faculties to the last, and could even read the smallest print without the help of glasses.—16. In Scotland, Sir Walter Riddell, of Riddell, Bart.—17. The Hon. Lady Frederick, lady of Sir Charles Frederick, K. B.—Vincent Cunningham, Esq. Major of Plymouth fort, and captain-lieutenant in the first-regiment of Essex-militia.—The Rev. Mr. Blackstone, lecturer of St. Andrew's Holbourn.—18. In the King's-Bench prison, the Rev. Mr. Goodhall, of Queen-Square, Westminster.—19. The Hon. William Parker, youngest son of the Earl of Macclesfield.—At Thetford, Mrs. Mary Miller, aged 106; she had a very retentive memory, which continued till within a few hours of her death. Her husband died about seven years since, at the age of 101.—Samuel Lewin, Esq. Major of the Radnor militia.—20. The Rev. Thomas Bawn, Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford.—21. At Edinburgh, in the 76*th* Year of his age, the Rev. Dr. Alexander Webster, one of the ministers of that city.—24. Charles Smith, Esq. late



late governour of Madras.—26. The Rt. Hon. Lady Amelia Byron, Baroness Conyers in her own right. The title of Baron Conyers descends to her eldest son by her first husband, the Marquis of Caermarthen. The succession of the above peerage produces a most remarkable circumstance; that of father, son, and grandfather possessing peerages, and a right of sitting and voting in the House of Lords at one and the same time, in the persons of the Duke of Leeds, his son the Marquis of Caermarthen, and his grandson, the Earl of Danby. The Earl of Danby, who has succeeded to the title of Baron Conyers, is their to three of the first estates in this country: that of the late Earl of Holderness, and the present Duke of Leeds and Lord Godolphin.

—29. At Edinburgh, Sir George Clerk, of Pennicuik, Bart. one of the commissioners of his Majesty's Customs, and lord-treasurer's remembrancer in the Court of Exchequer.—31. John Randolph, Esq. late attorney-general of Virginia.—Lately, on the hills near Bala, in Merionethshire, by the inclemency of the weather, the Rev. Mr. John Owen, as also Mr. Owen Edwards, both of that Neighbourhood.—At Castlecomer, in Ireland, the Right Hon. John Earl of Wandesford, Baron Castlecomer, and a baronet. His lordship's estate devolves to his only surviving daughter, the lady of John Butler, Esq.—Lately, Thomas Gleen, Esq. barrister at law, and deputy recorder of Coventry.—In Portland-Street, after being only two days in town, Mr. Meldenburgh, a native of Germany, distinguished among the literati of his country for his poetick talents, particularly for a beautiful critique in verse on the odes of Anacreon, as well as those of Dryden and Prior.—Capt. William Hillop, of the royal-artillery, who commanded the detachment of that corps serving in India, of the wounds he received in an action against the French. His brother, Capt. James Hillop, aide-du-camp to the late Sir Eyre Coote, was killed by the side of his gallant patron and commander some months ago.—At Vienna, Prince Lobkowitz, chief of that family.

#### CIVIL PROMOTIONS.

GAZETTE, Dec. 19, 1783.

**T**O be baronets of Great-Britain, and the heirs male of their bodies lawfully begotten: John Guise, of Highnam-Court, in the county of Gloucester, Esq.—Sir Andrew Snape Hammond, Knight, with remainder to Andrew Snape Douglas, Esq. captain in his Majesty's navy.—Charles Barrow, of Hygrove, in the county of Gloucester, Esq. with remainder to Thomas Crawley Boewy, of Flanley Abbey, in the said county, Esq.—John Morishead, of Tronant-Park, in the county of Cornwall, Esq.—The Rev. Richard Rycroft, Doctor in Divinity, of Calton, in the county of York.—John Silvester Smith, of Newland-Park, in the West-Riding of the county of York, Esq.—John Lombe, of Great Melton, in the county of Norfolk, Esq. with remainders severally to his brother, Edward Hafe, of Sall, in the said county of Norfolk, Esq. and to the heirs male of the body, lawfully begotten, of Vertue, wife of Richard Paul Jodrell, of

Saxlingham, in the same county, Esq. niece of the said John Lombe, Esq.—Thomas Durrant, of Scottowe, in the county of Norfolk, Esq.—Lucas Pepys, Doctor of Physick, of Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, physician extraordinary to his Majesty, with remainder to his brother, William Weller Pepys, of Ridley, in the county palatine of Chester, Esq. one of the masters in the High Court of Chancery.—Francis Wood, of Barnsley, in the county of York, Esq. second son of Francis Wood, late of Barnsley, aforesaid, Esq. deceased, with remainders severally to the Reverend Henry Wood, of the same place, Doctor in Divinity, eldest son of the said Francis Wood, deceased, and to the heirs male of the body, lawfully begotten, of the said Francis Wood, deceased.—William Fitzherbert, of Tellington, in the county of Derby, Esq.—and Thomas Beevor, of Stethel, in the county of Norfolk, Esq.

Dec. 20. Thomas Kelly and John Fitzgibbon, Esqrs. to be privy-counsellors in Ireland.

Dec. 22. Right Hon. John. Fitzgibbon, attorney-general of Ireland.

Dec. 27. Right Honourable James Grenville, privy-counsellor.

Dec. 30. Thomas Pitt, Esq. Lord Camelford, Baron of Boscconneck, in the county of Cornwall.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

L O N D O N.

WEDNESDAY, 25.

The Speaker of the House of Commons, attended by more than two hundred members, went up to St. James's, and presented the address voted on Friday the 20th. His Majesty's answer was nearly as follows:

“That he felt the peculiar necessity of a strong, united, and extended administration, and such as might possess the confidence of the public; that his endeavours to compose the present distractions by an union of the ablest men, upon a fair and equal footing, had been very recently used, but without success: that till such an administration could be formed as his faithful Commons desired, he could not see how it could conduce to the public good to remove his present servants from all the offices of executive government; more especially as no charge had been specified against any one of them, and as the representations of large and respectable bodies of his subjects had expressed a satisfaction in the late change which he had thought proper to make in his councils.”

THURSDAY, 26.

There was a numerous meeting of members at Mr. Fox's in St. James's Place. Mr. Fox recommended the utmost temper to be observed in their proceedings, and it was in consequence resolved to adjourn the consideration of his Majesty's answer, and of consequence all other business, to Monday the 1st of March.

A new negotiation for an union of parties was opened on Wednesday 25th, and had proceeded so far, that written preliminaries were sent from Mr. Pitt to the Duke of Portland.

# PRICES of STOCKS, &c. in FEBRUARY, 1784.

Compiled by C. DOMVILLE, Stock-Broker, No. 95, Cornhill.

Days	Bank Stock.	3 per C reduced	3 per C consols.	4 per C consols.	Long Ann.	Short An.	India Stock	India Ann.	India Bonds	S. Sea Stock	Old Ann.	New Ann.	Navy Bills.	Exch. Bills.	Wind Deal	Weath.
27	113	57	55 1/2 a 56 1/2	74 1/2	17	12 1/2	121 1/2	54 1/2	42 dif.	—	57 1/2	55 1/2	18 1/2	7	N W	Frost
28	114	57	56 1/2 a 56	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	121 1/2	—	41	—	—	—	18 1/2	7	S E	—
29	113	56	55 1/2 a 56	74	17	12 1/2	121 1/2	—	41	—	—	—	18 1/2	—	S E	—
30	—	57	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	121 1/2	—	40	—	—	—	20	—	N W	—
31	Sunday Holiday	—	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	19 1/2	—	N E	—
1	113	57	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	122	—	—	—	—	55 1/2	19 1/2	7	N E	—
2	113	57	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	—	52 1/2	38	—	57	—	20	6	N E	—
3	113	57	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	—	—	30	—	—	—	19 1/2	—	N E	—
4	113 1/2	57	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	—	—	25	—	—	56	19 1/2	—	N E	Rain
5	—	57	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	122 1/2	—	25	—	—	—	20 1/2	—	N E	Snow
6	Sunday	—	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N E	—
7	113 1/2	57	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	—	53	25	—	56 1/2	—	19 1/2	5	N W	Frost
8	113 1/2	57	55 1/2 a 56	74	16 1/2	12 1/2	122 1/2	—	30	65	—	—	20	4	N W	—
9	114	57	55 1/2 a 56	74	17	12 1/2	122 1/2	—	—	—	57	—	20	4	N W	—
10	115	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	27	66	—	57 1/2	19 1/2	4	N E	—
11	115 1/2	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	26	—	—	57 1/2	19 1/2	4	N E	—
12	—	58	57 1/2 a 56 1/2	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	—	—	26	—	—	—	19 1/2	4	N W	—
13	Sunday	—	57 1/2 a 56 1/2	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	26	—	—	—	19 1/2	4	N W	—
14	115 1/2	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	26	—	—	57 1/2	19 1/2	4	S	—
15	115 1/2	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	26	—	57 1/2	56 1/2	19 1/2	4	W	—
16	115 1/2	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	27	—	57 1/2	—	19 1/2	4	N	—
17	115 1/2	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	26	—	—	56 1/2	19 1/2	4	N	—
18	115 1/2	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	30	—	—	56 1/2	19 1/2	2	N	Rain
19	115 1/2	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	30	—	—	—	19	2	N	Frost
20	116	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	30	—	—	56 1/2	19	2	N	—
21	116	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	30	—	—	—	19	—	N	—
22	Sunday	—	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	30	—	57 1/2	—	19 1/2	5	N	Rain
23	116	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	26	—	—	—	19 1/2	—	N	—
24	115 1/2	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	26	—	—	—	18 1/2	—	N	—
25	—	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	—
26	—	57	56 1/2 a 57	75	17 1/2	12 1/2	123 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	Fair

N. B. In the 3 per Cent Consols. the highest and lowest Price of each Day is given ; in the other Stocks the highest Price only.